COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

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No. 31.

LAGOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1889.

(For Report for 1888 *see* Colonial Report No. 80, Old Series.)

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No. 31.

LAGOS.

[For Report for 1888 *see* Colonial Report No. 80, Old Series.]

SIR ALFRED MOLONEY (lately Governor of Lagos) to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Belize,
November 15, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward my report on the Blue Book for 1889 of the Colony of Lagos.

2. I have to express my regret that the report has not been rendered at an earlier date.

The Right Hon. Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.

I have, &c.
ALFRED MOLONEY.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of LAGOS for the Year 1889.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The Legislature was very much to be congratulated upon the exactness with which the estimates had been prepared, with the result that the actual expenditure was 57,488*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.* as compared with 58,363*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*, the amount of the estimates noted under Ordinance No. 6 of 1888.

The actual revenue of the year reached 57,633*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* against the estimated amount which was 57,395*l.* These figures show an excess by 238*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* of the former over the latter.

Accordingly the actual revenue and expenditure for 1889 stood as 57,633*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* to 57,488*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.*, with the result of a surplus of 145*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* on the year's transactions.

LAGOS.

The following is a comparative statement of revenue for the years 1888 and 1889:

Heads of Revenue.	1888.	1889.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	48,240 8 0	48,297 0 1	56 12 1	—
Sale of Government property	95 14 1	285 18 6	190 4 5	—
Land sales	49 4 0	280 1 0	230 17 0	—
Postal revenue	1,064 6 9½	1,066 17 8	2 10 10½	—
Stamp duties	—	89 9 6	89 9 6	—
Rent of land	311 14 8	287 11 3	—	24 3 5
Licenses	1,458 5 0	1,534 16 0	76 11 0	—
Fees of office	184 14 9	197 5 9	12 11 0	—
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court	820 0 0	904 2 1	83 17 8	—
Miscellaneous	3,043 11 10	2,926 7 6	—	117 4 4
Reimbursements, &c.	293 6 11½	358 1 9	64 14 9½	—
Interest on investments	1,348 1 3	1,405 12 7	57 11 4	—
Overpayments refunded	148 5 2	—	—	148 5 2
£	—	—	864 19 8	289 12 11

The following shows comparatively the expenditure for the years 1888 and 1889:—

Establishments and Services.	Expenditure.			
	1888.	1889.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salaries, fixed	28,344 17 5	17,702 12 0	—	10,642 5 5
Do., provisional and temporary	3,150 14 4	3,866 2 3	715 7 11	—
Allowances	1,384 18 1	1,121 3 6	—	263 14 7
Contingencies	740 16 1	363 0 8	—	377 15 5
Governor	23 12 0	35 8 7	11 16 9	—
Treasury	1 7 6	111 16 2	110 8 8	—
Customs	3,076 10 2	2,951 14 0	—	124 16 2
Post office	582 0 0	631 14 7	49 4 3	—
Public Works and Survey	6,771 12 2	7,841 12 6	1,070 0 4	—
Marine:—				
Harbour master	386 12 10	251 9 9	—	135 3 1
Government vessels	6,306 13 11	1,690 0 4	—	4,616 13 7
Judicial	64 0 9	57 10 6	—	6 10 3
Charitable	54 4 4	44 17 7	—	9 6 9
Educational	735 12 6	1,076 12 2	340 19 8	—
Constabulary	485 0 5	9,377 1 1	8,892 0 8	—
Prisons	957 0 0	865 9 5	—	91 10 7

Establishments and Services.	Expenditure.			
	1888.	1889.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Medical - - - - -	715 18 9	890 18 1	176 19 4	—
Sanitary - - - - - -	278 14 10	419 18 6	141 3 8	—
Rent - - - - - -	257 8 10	229 15 5	—	27 13 5
Transport - - - -	1,501 7 7	1,502 5 2	—	0 17 7
Aborigines - - - -	1,733 5 1	1,897 2 11	163 17 10	—
Miscellaneous - - - -	1,943 2 7	2,499 10 10	556 8 3	—
Pensions - - - -	1,346 3 5	2,060 5 0	714 1 7	—
£	60,840 3 11	57,488 1 2	12,943 6 6	16,295 9 3

Public Debt.

The Colony has no public debt. The liabilities of the Government on the 31st December 1889 amounted to 7,416*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*, and its assets to 43,235*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* Its credit balance on the close of 1889 was accordingly 35,819*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*, as will be observed from the following statement:—

Assets.	Amount.	Liabilities.	Amount.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Cash in Treasury on 31st December -	958 17 11	Deposits - -	6,836 13 1
Remittances in Transit to Crown Agents -	2,500 0 0	Balance due to Crown Agents 31st December - - -	579 10 7
Advances due to the Colony - -	1,318 2 10	Excess of assets -	35,819 5 7
Investments - -	38,458 8 6		
£	43,235 9 3	£	43,235 9 3

The investments of the Colony on the 31st December 1889 are detailed hereunder:—

Stock.	Cost in Sterling.
	£ s. d.
Canada debentures General - - - - -	11,124 0 0
Ceylon debentures - - - - - -	4,900 0 0
New South Wales Inscribed Stock - - - -	10,855 14 5
Victoria Inscribed Stock - - - - -	6,414 13 10
Victoria (Depreciation fund, Government vessels) - -	2,114 0 3
Ceylon debentures (Treasury Savings Bank) - - -	2,050 0 0
New South Wales Inscribed Stock (Treasury Savings Bank) -	1,000 0 0
£	38,458 8 6

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The Government is its own insurer as regards its steam craft. In the foregoing statement appears accordingly the sum of 2,114*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.*, made up of a regular annual investment of 500*l.*

The deposits in the Treasury Savings Bank for which, on the 31st December, the Colony was liable to the public, came to 3,423*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.* Of this amount 3,050*l.* appears among the investments of the Government.

Legislation.

The following Ordinances have been passed during the year by the Local Legislature, and have had extended to them the Royal Assent:—

No. 1.—An Ordinance to prevent the Adulteration of Produce.

No. 2.—An Ordinance to extend the application of the Spirit License Ordinance, 1875.

No. 3.—For the more effectual regulation and better management of public hospitals and dispensaries.

No. 4.—To allow and confirm certain Expenditure for the Service of the Colony of Lagos for the year 1888.

No. 5.—To amend the law relating to the Registration of Births and Deaths and the Regulation of Burials.

No. 6.—To regulate Weights and Measures.

No. 7.—To make further and better provision concerning Custom House landing-places and charges in respect of the use thereof.

No. 8.—For promoting the revision of the Statutory Law.

No. 9.—To amend the Supreme Court Ordinance.

No. 10.—To enable the Government in certain cases to pay the expenses connected with the foreign trial of criminals.

No. 11.—To legalise the past payment of good conduct pay to members of the Constabulary and to provide for its future payment.

No. 12.—To provide for the safe keeping of Petroleum and other inflammable and dangerous substances.

No. 13.—To amend the Merchandise Marks Ordinance, 1888.

No. 14.—To provide for the Service of the Colony during the year 1890.

No. 15.—To amend the law as to the remuneration of Customs Officers for extra services.

No. 16.—To indemnify the sender for the loss of or damage to a parcel sent by Parcel Post between the United Kingdom and the Colony.

No. 17.—To delay the coming into operation of the Births, Deaths, and Burials Ordinance, 1889.

No. 18.—To delay the coming into operation of the Weights and Measures Ordinance.

Alien Children.

During 1889, 230 alien children were registered in the Colony, no less than 56 tribes being represented. Egba supplying 29, Ijesha 16, Ibadan 15, Popo 17, Yoruba 14, Jebu 13.

Of these 190 were registered at Lagos, 19 at Badagry, and 21 at Leckie, 122 being males and 108 females.

As against the above figures for 1889, 233 children were registered in 1888, 118 being males and 115 females. Fifty-two tribes were represented.

Pensions and Gratuities.

The expenditure under the above heading totalled 2,060*l.* 5*s.* as compared with 1,346*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.* in previous year.

The following pensioners died during 1889: — Sir James Marshall, formerly Chief Justice of the Gold Coast and Lagos; Mr. M. J. Brown, formerly Colonial Secretary of the Gold Coast and Lagos; Mr. Charles Foresythe, formerly Treasurer of Lagos, and Mr. Robert Palmer, gravedigger. The pension list was accordingly reduced in the year considerably. The annual reduction represented thereby will be 411*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.* There was one pensioner, Mr. E. G. Woolhouse, late Treasurer of the Colony of Lagos, added to the list. In the year the sum of 76*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.* was paid to him as alimentary allowance. His actual pension has been fixed at 75*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*

A compassionate and conditional allowance of 200*l.* per annum has been made to Prince Oyekan, son of the late ex-King Docemo, and the grant was allowed to count from the death of Docemo, viz., 17th February 1885. Hence exceptional addition in 1889 of 773*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.* as arrears for previous years.

Ecclesiastical.

There is no State-aided Church or Colonial chaplain. There are 33 places of worship and 18 clergy.

Denomination.	No. of Clergy.	No. of Places of Worship.	No. of Persons generally attending.
Church of England - -	8	18	3,016
Wesleyan - - -	4	10	1,650
Roman Catholic - -	5	4	1,810
Baptist - - - -	1	1	75
	18	33	6,551

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Education.

The number of schools maintained during the year was 30, and the number of scholars attending 2,645. The following return gives particulars :—

Denomination.	No. of Schools.	Scholars.		Total.
		Male.	Female.	
Church of England - -	15	918	519	1,437
Wesleyan Methodist - -	6	320	185	505
Roman Catholic - - -	5	283	275	558
Baptist - - - -	4	110	35	145
	30	1,631	1,014	2,645

The Government assistance to the above is represented by the sum of 93*l.* in grants.

There are a number (48) of small Mohammedan schools, but the education imparted is confined to the Koran and tenets of the Mohammedan religion.

Newspapers.

The Government Gazette is published monthly, 300 copies being issued. Of newspapers proper there were three published at Lagos, viz., "The Mirror," "The Lagos Observer" (circulation 7,200), and the "Iwe Irohin" (circulation 6,650). "The Mirror" and "Observer" are printed in English, while the "Iwe Irohin" is in the vernacular (Yoruba) with a few paragraphs only in English.

Imports and Exports.

The report on the Blue Book for the Colony for 1887 gives the total value of the imports into and exports from Lagos from its cession in 1861 to and for 1887. The following detail is supplementary :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Surplus of Imports.	Surplus of Exports.
	£	£	£	£
1888 - - -	442,063	508,238	—	66,175
1889 - - -	464,260	457,649	6,611	—

Since the cession of Lagos its exports have invariably exceeded considerably in value the imports.

In 1889 the latter exceeded the former by 6,611*l.* This exception is explained, fortunately, by the comparatively heavy importation last year of specie, viz., 55,535*l.* as against 43,473*l.* for the previous three years from 1886 to 1888.

In a return published in 1887 by the Government, the principal imports and exports were detailed for the period from 1876 to 1885.

The Blue Book Report for 1887 continued in the same form and detail the imports and exports for 1886 and 1887.

Like continuity and uniformity are observed in this report to meet the public convenience.

Principal Imports into the Colony of Lagos in 1888 *and* 1889.

Articles.	Direction.	1888.		1889.	
		Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.
		Galls.	£	Galls.	£
Absinthe	France	27	9	25	6
	Teneriffe	10	5	—	—
	Porto Novo	27	17	30	12
	Great Britain	—	—	26	9
	Germany	—	—	22	13
		64	31	103	40
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Aerated waters	Great Britain	487	829	521	834
	Germany	73	76	173	134
	Porto Novo	9	8	70	85
	Teneriffe	20	7	—	—
	Little Popo	2	3	—	—
	Madeira	2	1	6	7
	France	—	—	38	22
	Grand Canary	—	—	5	6
		593	924	813	1,088
Ammunition	Great Britain	853	839	542	597
	Germany	354	347	305	301
	Porto Novo	7	8	12	9
	Cape Coast	1	1	—	—
	Little Popo	2	4	—	—
	Congo	—	—	10	6
		1,217	1,199	869	913

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Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Doz.	£	Doz.	£
Ale and porter	Great Britain	663	227	642	221
	Germany	3,158	921	5,419	1,480
	Porto Novo	2	1	1	1
	Brazils	4	2	—	—
	Grand Canary	40	9	—	—
	Little Popo	4	2	—	—
	France	—.	—	15	6
		3,871	1,162	6,077	1,708
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Beads	Great Britain	89	615	224	1,511
	Germany	2	130	12	131
	Brazils	17	17	—	—
	Sierra Leone	8	42	13	79
	Accra	100	350	149	671
	Porto Novo	4	2	2	5
	Little Popo	1	60	—	—
	Ahgwey	2	4	—	—
	Whydah	3	30	—	—
	Quittah	2	3	8	9
	River Niger	1	1	—	—
	France	—	—	1	32
	Salt Pond	—	—	2	50
	Cape Coast	—	—	9	97
		229	1,254	420	2,585
		No.		No.	
Boats and canoes	Great Britain	2	36	3	110
	New York	1	10	—	—
	Germany	1	35	2	265
	Accra	2	6	—	—
	Grand Bassam	1	3	—	—
	Forcados	1	1	—	—
		8	91	5	375
		Galls.		Galls.	
Brandy	Great Britain	98	103	86	86
	France	4	2	—	—
	Germany	75	76	117	100
	Brazils	—	—	1	1
	Opobo	—	—	17	27
	Porto Novo	—	—	1	1
		177	181	222	215

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Building materials.	Great Britain	4,799	6,020	5,717	6,172
	France	3	3	24	44
	Germany	1,956	3,060	1,252	2,220
	New York	—	395	—	—
	Brazils	1	3	4	5
	Sierra Leone	1	2	—	—
	Cameroon	80	31	—	—
	Porto Novo	40	25	218	173
	Bonny	3	8	—	—
		6,883	9,547	7,215	8,614
Canvas and tarpaulin	Great Britain	4	27	8	50
	Germany	1	2	11	51
	France	—	—	1	3
		5	29	20	104
Carts and carriages	Great Britain	22	364	8	42
	Brazils	2	9	—	—
	Germany	—	—	2	161
		24	373	10	203
Chemicals and drugs.	Great Britain	280	858	293	1,093
	Germany	9	41	23	52
	Brazils	7	12	8	9
	New York	5	7	—	—
	Teneriffe	1	2	—	—
	Sierra Leone	4	6	14	28
	Accra	3	3	1	1
	Las Palmas	2	9	1	1
	River Niger	—	—	11	50
	Porto Novo	—	—	3	8
		311	938	354	1,242
		No.		No.	
Cigars	Great Britain	87,350	99	20,800	28
	France	1,600	7	25,000	63
	Germany	324,685	764	209,921	575
	Brazils	47,550	124	14,850	27
	Porto Novo	1,000	6	100	1
	Teneriffe	6,000	15	7,900	18
	Little Popo	1,600	3	—	—
	Fernando Po	100	1	—	—
	Accra	100	1	160	1
	Madeira	—	—	200	1
	Cape Coast	—	—	100	1
	Congo	—	—	300	1
		469,985	1,020	279,331	716

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Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Clocks and watches	Great Britain	46	211	52	220
	France	1	3	—	—
	Germany	13	130	14	208
	Brazils	4	7	1	2
	Porto Novo	1	4	—	—
	Madeira	1	3	—	—
		66	358	67	430
China and Glassware	Great Britain	163	827	129	484
	Germany	941	196	73	291
	Cape Coast	2	5	1	1
	Accra	3	5	1	2
	Kutonu	1	1	—	—
	Porto Novo	2	1	42	6
	Opobo	1	1	1	1
	Sierra Leone	1	2	3	6
	Teneriffe	1	1	—	—
	Brazils	—	—	3	4
	Madeira	—	—	1	3
	Quittah	—	—	2	1
	Benin	—	—	1	2
		1,115	1,039	257	801
		Tons.		Tons.	
Coal	Great Britain	6	5	2,316	1,173
	Germany	1,675	813	—	—
		1,681	818	2,316	1,173
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Cordage	Great Britain	295	1,370	281	2,072
	Germany	37	370	36	561
	Cape Coast	1	1	1	4
	Porto Novo	5	3	3	9
	Opobo	1	1	—	—
		339	1,745	321	2,646

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Cotton goods	Great Britain	12,739	184,298	10,823	177,067
	France	4	78	—	—
	Germany	585	8,088	262	3,912
	Brazils	5	6	1	2
	Sierra Leone	13	75	18	69
	Cape Coast	6	14	18	195
	Congo	5	13	9	9
	Porto Novo	35	149	246	3,013
	River Niger	9	84	1	1
	Goree	1	1	—	—
	New York	1	2	—	—
	Accra	9	10	7	11
	Little Popo	2	1	1	1
	Forcados	2	22	—	—
	Bonny	1	26	2	11
	Opobo	2	11	2	15
	Cameroon	1	21	—	—
	Quittah	1	1	2	1
	Benin	—	—	1	1
	Old Calabar	—	—	1	3
		13,421	192,900	11,394	184,311
Country cloths	River Niger	9	560	4	6
	Accra	2	41	1	1
	Sierra Leone	—	—	1	1
	Gambia	—	—	1	1
		11	601	7	9
		Tons.		Tons.	
Cowries	Porto Novo	10	110	33	264
	Great Britain	—	—	1	41
	France	—	—	11	247
	Mozambique	—	—	38	554
	Kutonu	—	—	$0\frac{1}{10}$	1
		10	110	$83\frac{1}{10}$	1,107
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Cutlery	Great Britain	746	1,659	451	1,163
	Germany	148	363	385	763
	Brazils	1	1	—	—
	Porto Novo	2	12	7	11
	Forcados	1	2	—	—
	France	—	—	2	8
	River Niger	—	—	2	5
		898	2,037	847	1,950

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Earthenware	Great Britain	1,181	5,762	409	1,931
	Germany	8	30	17	40
	Brazils	11	14	10	17
	Porto Novo	3	13	6	3
	Sierra Leone	4	6	—	—
	Bonny	1	2	—	—
	Teneriffe	—	—	1	3
		1,208	5,827	443	1,994
Furniture	Great Britain	121	707	196	1,416
	France	4	21	—	—
	Germany	41	177	97	523
	Brazils	6	4	—	—
	Porto Novo	3	2	1	2
	Old Calabar	2	1	—	—
	New York	2	3	—	—
	Madeira	5	2	2	3
	Accra	6	8	3	3
	Las Palmas	2	15	2	4
	Opobo	1	1	—	—
	Teneriffe	2	22	1	1
	Sierra Leone	1	2	3	8
	Cape Coast	—	—	2	1
		196	965	307	1,961
		Galls.		Galls.	
Geneva	Great Britain	763	115	3,689	322
	Germany	578,366	46,120	550,185	48,894
	Porto Novo	82	11	1,041	84
	France	—	—	9,275	795
		579,211	46,246	564,190	50,095
		Brls.		Brls.	
Gunpowder	Great Britain	514	762	518	757
	France	346	617	1,041	1,367
	Germany	249	274	200	250
	Porto Novo	647	1,147	1,663	1,525
		1,756	2,800	3,422	3,899
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Gold Dust	Accra	1	10	4	91
	Cape Coast	10	256	4	90
		11	266	8	181

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		No.	£	No.	£
Guns -	Great Britain -	3,942	1,540	5,407	2,226
	Germany - -	765	352	864	378
	France - -	1	9	140	60
	Cape Coast - -	1	5	—	—
	Forcados - -	6	2	—	—
	Porto Novo - -	85	56	138	241
	Brazils - -	7	4	6	3
	Bonny - -	—	—	1	1
	Congo - -	—	—	16	20
		4,807	1,968	6,572	2,929
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Haberdashery	Great Britain -	642	6,113	780	7,532
	France - -	—	4	2	15
	Germany - -	32	176	54	298
	Brazils - -	18	51	34	104
	Cape Coast - -	5	42	16	126
	Benin - -	2	6	—	—
	Teneriffe - -	2	5	—	—
	New York - -	3	16	—	—
	Porto Novo - -	5	21	34	28
	Little Popo - -	2	4	—	—
	Accra - -	28	96	46	136
	Quittah - -	2	5	3	15
	Old Calabar - -	1	1	—	—
	Opobo - -	1	2	5	51
	Forcados - -	4	4	1	1
	Fernando Po -	3	3	1	2
	Sierra Leone -	12	33	20	82
	Madeira - -	1	1	—	—
	Gaboon - -	—	—	1	1
	Bonny - -	—	—	7	22
	Congo - -	—	—	66	111
	River Niger - -	—	—	8	15
	Whydah - -	—	—	1	1
	Ahgwey - -	—	—	2	2
	Kutonu - -	—	—	1	2
		763	6,583	1,082	8,544
Hardware -	Great Britain -	1,174	5,581	749	4,126
	France - -	—	1	8	145
	Germany - -	77	612	248	925
	Brazils - -	15	23	3	6
	Porto Novo - -	4	6	6	57
	Accra - -	3	5	2	2
	Old Calabar -	3	5	1	1
	Grand Bassam -	1	1	—	—
	River Niger -	1	3	2	4
	Madeira - -	—	—	1	1
	Cape Coast - -	—	—	2	1
	Congo - -	—	—	2	2
	Opobo - -	—	—	—	1
	Sierra Leone -	—	—	2	1
		1,278	6,237	1,026	5,272

LAGOS.

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Jewellery	Great Britain	18	136	19	61
	France	1	7	—	—
	Germany	1	7	—	—
	Accra	4	46	—	—
	Cape Coast	—	—	2	26
		24	196	21	87
Kolah Nuts	Sierra Leone	109	329	74	223
	Cape Coast	141	425	79	239
	Accra	1,033	3,101	776	2,388
	Winnebah	42	128	—	—
	Salt Pond	66	201	9	31
	Bonny	1	1	—	—
	Porto Novo	4	12	—	—
	Quittah	1	2	—	—
	Opobo	1	1	15	47
	Little Popo	1	3	—	—
	Old Calabar	—	—	1	1
	River Niger	—	—	1	1
		1,399	4,203	955	2,930
Lamps	Great Britain	62	219	62	291
	Germany	10	45	33	106
	New York	1	8	—	—
		73	272	95	397
Leather	Great Britain	2	18	5	19
Machinery	Great Britain	82	288	106	407
	France	1	2	1	5
	Germany	14	43	50	174
	Brazils	8	28	7	21
	Cape Coast	3	9	—	—
	Accra	1	3	—	—
	Gaboon	—	—	1	2
	Porto Novo	—	—	5	20
		109	373	170	629
Matches	Great Britain	84	568	172	1,164
	Germany	132	588	121	496
	Porto Novo	—	—	1	1
		216	1,156	294	1,661

Articles.	Direction.	1888.		1889.	
		Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Musical Instruments	Great Britain	16	169	28	297
	Germany	10	167	13	89
	France	1	1	—	—
	Accra	1	50	1	2
	Porto Novo	1	1	1	26
	River Niger	5	2	—	—
	Teneriffe	2	10	—	—
	Brazils	1	1	—	—
		87	401	43	414
Oakum	Great Britain	154	97	91	68
	Germany	6	8	1	1
	Brazils	—	—	1	1
	Porto Novo	—	—	2	1
		160	105	95	71
Oil — Lamp, Paint, Engine, &c.	Great Britain	141	303	981	850
	France	24	15	1	2
	Germany	447	326	3,120	1,312
	Belgium	7	14	1	1
	Porto Novo	4	25	3	8
	Las Palmas	18	22	—	—
	New York	916	214	—	—
	Grand Canary	150	63	75	30
	Forcados	29	12	—	—
	Brazils	11	3	—	—
	Madeira	21	42	—	—
	Teneriffe	11	6	—	—
	Cape Coast	—	—	12	4
	Accra	—	—	200	85
	Pram Pram	—	—	50	23
		1,779	1,045	4,443	2,315
Paint	Great Britain	294	90	167	70
	Germany	3	6	2	6
		297	96	169	76
Perfumery	Great Britain	75	266	94	149
	Germany	105	80	22	75
	Brazils	12	4	—	—
	New York	18	8	—	—
	Teneriffe	1	1	—	—
	Cape Coast	4	2	20	145
	Porto Novo	16	12	18	7
	Sierra Leone	2	4	—	—
	Accra	1	1	2	1
	Quittah	1	1	—	—
	France	—	—	6	29
	Axim	—	—	1	1
		235	379	163	407

LAGOS.

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Photographic apparatus	Great Britain	20	52	25	123
	Accra	5	13	1	1
		25	65	26	124
Pipes, smoking	Great Britain	1,337	750	1,154	435
	Germany	114	51	407	308
	France	1	1	—	—
	Porto Novo	3	1	1	1
	Cape Coast	1	1	—	—
	Forcados	—	—	1	1
		1,456	804	1,563	745
Pitch and tar	Great Britain	68	50	34	25
	Germany	—	—	35	29
	Brazils	1	1	—	—
	Porto Novo	3	1	2	1
		72	52	71	55
		No.		No.	
Pistols and revolvers	Great Britain	560	125	112	64
	Germany	3	4	7	2
	Forcados	12	3	—	—
	Congo	—	—	1	1
		581	132	120	67
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Potash	Brazils	5	8	2	2
	Benin	1	1	—	—
	Addah	4	5	—	—
	Quittah	1	1	—	—
	Accra	2	8	2	5
	River Niger	537	1,478	81	1,381
		550	1,501	85	1,388
Printing materials	Great Britain	5	24	16	139

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Provisions	Great Britain	3,796	12,177	3,259	8,687
	Germany	826	2,173	923	1,860
	France	208	89	29	45
	Brazils	70	1,064	105	647
	New York	71	80	—	—
	Jellah Coffee	3	7	—	—
	Porto Novo	57	54	144	285
	River Niger	1	1	6	1
	Little Popo	10	8	—	—
	Las Palmas	38	81	56	120
	Madeira	133	96	219	69
	Grand Canary	58	12	24	2
	Cape Coast	18	14	5	4
	Accra	67	29	39	22
	Opobo	7	2	23	7
	Quittah	42	10	33	11
	Teneriffe	84	57	7	5
	Bonny	2	5	1	1
	Forcados	6	3	—	—
	Grand Bassam	2	1	—	—
	Sierra Leone	241	290	173	189
	Gambia	1	1	2	1
	Congo	—	—	4	1
	Monrovia	—	—	1	2
	Liberia	—	—	1	4
	Tarboro	—	—	1	1
	Salt Pond	—	—	1	1
	Winnebah	—	—	5	3
		5,741	16,254	5,061	11,967
		Galls.		Galls.	
Rum	Great Britain	10,159	792	2,527	477
	Germany	723,576	31,121	709,650	33,630
	Brazils	25,537	2,314	29,201	1,439
	Porto Novo	2,022	148	2,418	196
	Old Calabar	2	1	2	1
	France	—	—	971	53
	Las Palmas	—	—	24	11
	Accra	—	—	5	4
	River Niger	—	—	12	8
		761,296	34,376	744,810	35,819
		Tons.		Tons.	
Salt	Great Britain	3,470	4,558	2,711	3,873
	Germany	1,219	2,083	1,669	3,174
	Benin	5	20	—	—
	France	—	—	44	150
		4,694	6,661	4,424	7,197
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Saddlery	Great Britain	39	539	16	116
	River Niger	—	—	1	2
		39	539	17	118

LAGOS.

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		No.	£	No.	£
Shooks	Great Britain	9,964	9,846	7,167	7,079
	Germany	1,871	1,915	2,222	2,041
	Cape Coast	7	7	1	1
	Sierra Leone	4	4	2	1
	France	—	—	260	113
	Belgium	—	—	85	85
	Accra	—	—	3	4
	Porto Novo	—	—	234	115
		11,846	11,772	9,974	9,439
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Silk goods	Great Britain	22	906	36	1,563
	Germany	3	59	3	145
	Quittah	1	1	—	—
	River Niger	1	1	—	—
	Cape Coast	—	—	1	8
		27	967	40	1,716
Soap	Great Britain	896	258	2,728	666
	France	12	3	20	12
	Germany	3	1	206	24
	Porto Novo	18	8	—	—
	Little Popo	6	1	—	—
	Cape Coast	1	1	—	—
	Accra	—	—	1	1
	Opobo	—	—	1	1
	Porto Novo	—	—	16	12
		936	272	2,972	716
Stationery, books, &c.	Great Britain	419	2,608	420	2,090
	France	3	3	2	3
	Germany	44	126	69	255
	Brazils	2	1	—	—
	New York	1	1	—	—
	Sierra Leone	3	27	10	75
	Little Popo	1	10	2	2
	Congo	1	1	—	—
	Porto Novo	4	9	7	38
	Accra	1	1	1	3
	Cape Coast	2	31	2	1
	Las Palmas	—	—	1	2
	Madeira	—	—	1	1
	Benin	—	—	1	8
		481	2,818	516	2,478
Sugar (Refined)	Great Britain	909	1,132	935	1,311
	France	2	3	2	2
	Germany	26	34	40	59
	New York	5	7	—	—
	Porto Novo	5	7	5	9
	Las Palmas	2	3	—	—
		949	1,186	982	1,381

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Pkgs.	£	Pkgs.	£
Sugar (Unrefined)	Great Britain	124	155	100	141
	Brazils	15	19	5	12
		139	174	105	153
Tinware	Great Britain	304	969	173	519
	Germany	5	10	4	4
	Sierra Leone	1	1	—	—
	Accra	4	4	2	1
	Porto Novo	1	5	4	1
	Bonny	1	3	—	—
	Quittah	—	—	3	1
		316	992	186	526
		Lbs.		Lbs.	
Tobacco	Great Britain	501,279	11,718	555,825	11,433
	France	2,427	75	13	3
	Germany	165,738	5,384	218,625	6,919
	Brazils	303,328	6,148	394,375	8,215
	Teneriffe	6	2	—	—
	Little Popo	6	3	—	—
	Forcados	1,760	36	—	—
	Cape Coast	2,298	57	—	—
	Porto Novo	5,716	125	8,578	177
	New York	33,660	553	—	—
	Grand Canary	—	—	8,915	139
		1,016,218	24,101	1,186,331	26,886
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Wearing apparel	Great Britain	352	2,843	429	3,189
	France	4	19	5	35
	Germany	31	176	71	633
	Porto Novo	6	20	29	283
	Goree	1	1	—	—
	Brazils	11	34	2	4
	Accra	8	12	3	13
	New York	4	10	—	—
	Little Popo	2	1	1	1
	Las Palmas	4	23	—	—
	Fernando Po	3	4	—	—
	Cape Coast	2	2	3	2
	Madeira	2	12	10	74
	River Niger	7	35	4	5
	Teneriffe	8	90	—	—
	Sierra Leone	11	49	6	22
	Quittah	—	—	1	1
	Old Calabar	—	—	2	3
	Congo	—	—	1	1
		456	3,331	567	4,266

LAGOS.

Articles.	Direction.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Galls.	£	Galls.	£
Wines	Great Britain	1,036	648	1,421	748
	Germany	2,193	772	4,515	1,561
	Brazils	83	26	199	48
	France	430	53	408	153
	Madeira	1,234	218	1,151	189
	Porto Novo	730	124	2,413	364
	Teneriffe	65	11	16	9
	Grand Canary	44	8	18	2
	Congo	18	3	38	9
	Las Palmas	1,104	86	1,187	117
	Little Popo	12	13	—	—
	Gaboon	2	2	—	—
	Bonny	10	2	8	6
	St. Thomas	—	—	9	2
	Accra	—	—	16	16
	Opobo	—	—	18	16
	River Niger	—	—	2	1
	Forcados	—	—	2	1
	Kutonu	—	—	2	1
		6,961	1,966	11,423	3,243
		Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Specie (gold)	Great Britain	5	1,480	8	11,689
	Germany	10	6,700	6	5,500
	Cape Coast	2	104	1	80
	Little Popo	—	—	1	6
		17	8,284	16	17,275
Specie (silver)	Great Britain	14	6,000	89	35,110
	Germany	23	9,500	7	2,600
	Cape Coast	10	1,490	3	550
	Salt Pond	1	51	—	—
	Goree	1	4	—	—
		49	17,045	99	38,260
Woollen goods	Great Britain	58	933	114	1,457
	Germany	31	338	45	631
	Congo	3	8	—	—
	Opobo	1	1	1	2
	Porto Novo	1	7	1	3
	Sierra Leone	1	2	2	2
	Accra	—	—	2	4
		95	1,289	165	2,099

—	1888.		1889.	
	Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.
		£		£
Value.—Principal articles - -	—	430,098	—	460,168
Value.—Other articles - -	—	11,965	—	4,092
Total - -	—	442,063	—	464,260

Principal Exports from the Colony of Lagos in 1888 *and* 1889.

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
			£		£
Aerated and soda water.	Porto Novo - -	—	2	—	57
		Doz.		Doz.	
Ale and porter.	Porto Novo - -	678	265	1,087	296
	Elmina - -	40	13	—	—
	Cape Palmas -	—	—	24	6
	Cape Coast - -	—	—	12	5
	Gaboon - -	—	—	395	138
		718	278	1,518	445
Beads - -	Sierra Leone -	—	280	—	204
	Brazils - -	—	2	—	1
	Accra - -	—	7	—	14
	Opobo - -	—	3	—	15
	Porto Novo - -	—	312	—	—
	Cape Coast - -	—	39	—	25
	Quittah - -	—	2	—	—
	River Niger -	—	20	—	—
	Great Britain -	—	34	—	77
		—	699	—	336
		Tons.		Tons.	
Benniseed	Great Britain -	25	187	267	1,910
	Germany - -	4	103	23	222
		29	290	290	2,132

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
			£		£
Building materials	Porto Novo	—	262	—	366
	River Niger	—	—	—	29
	Accra	—	1	—	1
	Forcados River	—	24	—	—
	Bonny	—	40	—	—
	Great Britain	—	—	—	9
		—	327	—	405
Calabashes	Sierra Leone	—	43	—	71
	Cape Coast	—	6	—	1
	Accra	—	4	—	15
	Brazils	—	50	—	86
	Great Britain	—	2	—	—
	Gambia	—	—	—	1
		—	105	—	174
Chemicals and drugs	Porto Novo	—	9	—	31
	River Niger	—	—	—	7
	Little Popo	—	3	—	—
	Brazils	—	2	—	—
	Sierra Leone	—	30	—	—
	Great Britain	—	—	—	8
		—	44	—	46
		No.		No.	
Cigars	Porto Novo	25,000	64	44,250	107
	Sierra Leone	—	—	1,000	3
		25,000	64	45,250	110
Clocks and watches	Porto Novo	—	3	—	27
	Bonny	—	2	—	—
	Great Britain	—	18	—	17
		—	23	—	44
China and glassware	Accra	—	6	—	—
	Cape Coast	—	108	—	—
	Porto Novo	—	12	—	51
	Quittah	—	10	—	11
	Brazils	—	7	—	—
	Little Popo	—	—	—	3
	Germany	—	—	—	13
	Great Britain	—	—	—	10
		—	143	—	88
Coals	Porto Novo	—	—	10	25

Principal Articles	Country to which exported.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		lbs.	£	lbs.	£
Cocoa	Great Britain	3,738	117	2,994	69
	Germany	—	—	50	1
		3,738	117	3,044	70
		Cwts.		Cwts.	
Coprah	Great Britain	2	2	5	3
		Galls.		Galls.	
Cordials	Porto Novo	132	50	169	42
		lbs.		lbs.	
Cotton—raw	Great Britain	203,687	3,657	427,742	7,158
	Germany	27,741	365	55,208	865
	Brazils	56	3	—	—
		231,484	4,025	482,950	8,023
Cotton goods	Porto Novo	—	12,630	—	16,409
	Great Britain	—	1	—	101
	Accra	—	4	—	2
	Sierra Leone	—	—	—	45
	River Niger	—	3	—	326
	Quittah	—	—	—	166
	Opobo	—	30	—	—
	Brazils	—	1	—	10
	Bonny	—	2	—	37
	Cape Palmas	—	—	—	2
	Elmina	—	321	—	—
		—	12,992	—	17,098
Country cloth	Opobo	—	299	—	473
	Accra	—	1,575	—	2,356
	Addah	—	10	—	—
	Cape Coast	—	828	—	1,141
	Sierra Leone	—	1,485	—	2,484
	Sherbro	—	13	—	—
	Gambia	—	—	—	8
	Grand Bassam	—	—	—	109
	Quittah	—	1,158	—	1,745
	Great Britain	—	1	—	—
	Brazils	—	3,367	—	2,306
	New Calabar	—	10	—	20
	Salt Pond	—	—	—	26
	Senegal	—	—	—	2
		—	8,746	—	10,670

LAGOS.

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Tons.	£	Tons.	£
Cowries	Porto Novo	33	228	1	41
	Brazils	$\frac{1}{10}$	5	—	—
	Sierra Leone	$\frac{1}{20}$	1	$\frac{7}{20}$	5
		$33\frac{3}{20}$	234	$1\frac{7}{20}$	46
Earthenware	Porto Novo	—	237	—	194
	Great Britain	—	1	—	—
	Sierra Leone	—	—	—	1
	Cape Coast	—	1	—	1
		—	239	—	196
Furniture	Porto Novo	—	9	—	6
	Sierra Leone	—	45	—	20
	Cape Coast	—	—	—	3
		—	54	—	29
		Galls.		Galls.	
Geneva	Porto Novo	170,773	14,316	144,817	13,469
	Kroo Coast	476	54	230	26
	Forcados River	350	23	1,625	200
		171,599	14,393	146,672	13,695
		lbs.		lbs.	
Gum	Great Britain	34,548	387	76,929	635
	Germany	14,357	148	33,837	501
		48,905	535	110,766	1,136
Gunny bags	Porto Novo	—	—	—	76
		Brls.		Brls.	
Gunpowder	Porto Novo	100	116	69	100
	Kroo Coast	11	20	33	48
		111	136	102	148
		No.	£	No.	£
Guns, pistols, and revolvers.	Porto Novo	1,220	449	1,900	726
	Great Britain	—	—	20	46
	Cape Palmas	—	—	2	1
		1,220	449	1,922	773

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
			£		£
Haberdashery	Porto Novo	—	29	—	92
	Great Britain	—	28	—	9
	River Niger	—	—	—	4
	Brazils	—	—	—	1
	Accra	—	5	—	—
	Upobo	—	—	—	7
		—	62	—	113
Hardware	Great Britain	—	—	—	34
	Porto Novo	—	224	—	212
	River Niger	—	—	—	5
	Quittah	—	—	—	35
	Accra	—	15	—	—
	Germany	—	—	—	9
	Opobo	—	—	—	10
		—	239	—	305
		Lbs.		Lbs.	
Hides	Great Britain	1,975	44	—	—
	Germany	7,258	211	6,870	102
		9,233	255	6,870	102
India rubber	Great Britain	567	41	502	27
Ivory	Great Britain	8,180	2,375	11,447	3,366
	Germany	5,179	1,632	2,195	727
		13,359	4,007	13,642	4,093
Jewellery	Great Britain	—	420	—	1
	Accra	—	—	—	10
		—	420	—	11
			£		£
Kolah Nuts	Brazils	—	1,525	—	1,167
	River Niger	—	—	—	120
	Sierra Leone	—	42	—	37
		—	1,567	—	1,324
Matches	Porto Novo	—	301	—	371
Matchets	Porto Novo	—	402	—	66

LAGOS.

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Galls.	£	Galls.	£
Oil—palm	Great Britain	1,835,366	95,828	1,566,409	88,381
	Portugal	—	—	91,166	6,083
	Germany	450,585	21,529	546,838	31,823
	France	64,393	3,204	77,965	3,898
	Brazils	52,192	2,600	55,503	2,842
	Whydah	44,170	2,207	—	—
	Kutonu	—	—	11,130	696
		2,446,706	123,368	2,349,011	133,723
		Tons.		Tons.	
Palm Kernels	Great Britain	9,424	66,392	7,040	50,683
	France	5,031	35,125	1,305	8,842
	Germany	28,474	209,402	24,250	179,652
	Portugal	310	2,250	60	390
	Spain	—	—	60	420
	Whydah	286	1,716	—	—
		43,525	314,885	32,715	239,987
Perfumery	Porto Novo	—	9	—	30
	New Calabar	—	—	—	20
		—	9	—	50
		Ton.		Ton.	
Potash	Sierra Leone	1	47	1½	115
		Cwt.		Cwts.	
	Accra	1	2	5	3
		Cwts.			
	Brazils	3	6	—	—
				Cwts.	
	Cape Coast	—	—	2	2
		Ton Cwts. 1 4	55	Ton Cwts. 1 17	120
Provisions	Cameroons	—	30	—	43
	Accra	—	13	—	206
	Sierra Leone	—	79	—	—
	Bonny	—	1	—	—
	Brazils	—	77	—	42
	Little Popo	—	4	—	—
	Great Britain	—	1	—	4
	Porto Novo	—	442	—	912
	River Niger	—	—	—	3
	Quittah	—	2	—	—
		—	649	—	1.210

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
			£		£
Provisions	Elmina	—	102	—	—
	Opobo	—	—	—	56
	Cape Coast	—	—	—	24
		—	102	—	80
		Galls.		Galls.	
Rum	Porto Novo	136,368	5,594	130,680	5,352
	Sierra Leone	42	9	—	—
	Little Popo	240	20	—	—
		136,650	5,623	130,680	5,352
		Tons.		Tons.	
Salt	Porto Novo	394	1,087	272	864
Shea butter	Cape Coast	—	853	—	648
	Brazils	—	134	—	283
	Accra	—	182	—	419
	Opobo	—	—	—	1
	Sierra Leone	—	30	—	42
	Great Britain	—	1	—	—
		—	1,200	—	1,393
Shooks	Porto Novo	—	730	—	350
	Portugal	—	9	—	—
	Germany	—	—	—	1
		—	739	—	351
Soap	Accra	—	2	—	1
	Brazils	—	295	—	318
	Cape Coast	—	2	—	1
	Sierra Leone	—	3	—	—
	Porto Novo	—	6	—	6
	Quittah	—	1	—	3
		—	309	—	329
Specie	Great Britain	—	150	—	206
	Porto Novo	—	300	—	1,250
		—	450	—	1,456
Straw or fibre	Brazils	—	159	—	97

LAGOS.

Principal Articles.	Country to which exported.	1888. Quantities.	1888. Value.	1889. Quantities.	1889. Value.
		Lbs.		Lbs	£
Tobacco	Porto Novo	313,994	7,302	456,486	9,185
	Cape Coast	50	2	—	—
	Brazils	125	4	—	—
	Elmina	6630	248	—	—
		320,799	7,556	456,486	9,185
Twine or cordage	Porto Novo	—	102	—	105
Wearing Apparel	Porto Novo	—	61	—	—
	Great Britain	—	2	—	—
	River Niger	—	2	—	11
	Quittah	—	—	—	2
	Sierra Leone	—	—	—	20
		—	65	—	33
		Galls.		Galls.	
Wines	Porto Novo	669	133	868	241
	Cape Palmas	—	—	2	2
		669	133	870	243
Woollen Goods	Accra	—	10	—	44
	Sierra Leone	—	—	—	1
	Porto Novo	—	34	—	26
	Quittah	—	23	—	61
	Little Popo	—	—	—	6
		—	67	—	138
Yellow Metal	Great Britain	—	43	—	109
Other articles		—	391	—	545
Total value of principal and other articles		—	508,288	—	457,649

Return showing quantities and value of goods shipped to Porto Novo under Bond Transit Duties, and also on goods, Duty paid, on which Drawback could be claimed.

Articles.	1888.		1889.	
	Doz.	£	Doz.	£
Ale and porter	678	265	1,086	296
Beads	—	312	—	—
Building materials	—	262	—	366
Chemicals and drugs	—	9	—	31
China and glassware	—	12	—	51
	No.		No.	
Cigars	25,000	64	44,250	107
Clocks and watches	—	3	—	27
			Tons	
Coals	—	—	10	25
Cordage	—	102	—	105
	Galls.		Galls.	
Cordials	132	50	169	42
Cotton goods	—	12,630	—	16,409
	Tons		Tons	
Cowries	33	228	1	41
Earthenware	—	237	—	194
Furniture	—	9	—	6
	Galls.		Galls.	
Geneva	170,773	14,316	144,817	13,469
Gunny bags	—	—	—	76
	Brls.		Brls.	
Gunpowder	100	116	69	100
	No.		No.	
Guns	1,220	449	1,900	726
Haberdashery	—	29	—	92
Hardware	—	224	—	212
Instruments, musical	—	—	—	21
Matches	—	301	—	371
Matchets	—	402	—	66
Perfumery	—	9	—	30
Potash	—	—	—	—
Provisions	—	442	—	912
	Galls.		Galls.	
Rum	136,368	5,594	130,680	5,352
	Tons		Tons	
Salt	394	1,087	272	864
Shooks	—	730	—	350

Articles.	1888.		1889.	
		£		£
Silk Goods - - -	—	—	—	—
Soap - - - -	—	6	—	6
Soda water - - -	—	2	—	57
Specie - - - -	—	300	—	1,250
	Lbs.		Lbs.	
Tobacco - - - -	313,994	7,302	456,486	9,185
Wearing apparel - - -	—	61	—	—
	Galls.		Galls.	
Wines - - - -	669	133	868	241
Woollen Goods - - -	—	34	—	26
Other Articles - - -	—	109	—	391
Total - -	—	45,829	—	51,497

Shipping.

Steam monopolises now almost all the carrying trade to and from the Colony. Visits of sailing ships are becoming fewer and fewer.

In 1889 no British sailing vessel entered. In 1888 there was one entry of 393 tons and a crew of 10. In 1888 foreign sailing vessels that entered represented a tonnage of 5,020, and in 1889 of 4,146, while those that cleared represented 5,603 and 4,146 tons respectively.

The number of steam vessels entered in 1888 was 421, with a tonnage of 259,748, and for 1889 383, with a tonnage of 249,071. There cleared in the former year 413, with a tonnage of 254,700, and in the latter year 382, with a tonnage of 248,154. Of British steam vessels that entered in 1888 the tonnage was 188,730 against 71,018 foreign. The figures for 1889 were 185,015 against 64,056. Of British steam vessels that cleared in 1888 the tonnage was 183,258 against 71,442 foreign. The figures for 1889 were 183,617 against 64,537.

Figures returned annually from the data furnished by importers and exporters to the Customs as the value of imports and exports are misleading when accepted, as is erroneously done, as representing the volume of trade.

The great increase of carrying power at the port of Lagos points more accurately and conclusively to the volume of trade.

The tonnage of steam vessels that entered and cleared from 1878 to 1889 was as follow:—

Year.	Tonnage.
1878	293,142
1879	290,074
1880	324,008
1881	294,817
1882	313,680
1883	352,303
1884	356,921
1885	396,630
1886	427,466
1887	503,775
1888	514,448
1889	497,225

For the same years the tonnage of sailing vessels that entered and cleared was as follows:—

Year.	Tonnage.
1878	69,580
1879	68,034
1880	55,350
1881	37,277
1882	39,808
1883	37,492
1884	26,650
1885	36,320
1886	20,926
1887	14,868
1888	11,409
1889	8,292

Tonnage of Steam Vessels Entered and Cleared in the Colony of Lagos in the Years 1888 *and* 1889.

ENTERED.

Year.	Tonnage.		Total.
	British.	Foreign.	
1888	188,730	71,018	259,748
1889	185,015	64,056	249,071

CLEARED.

1888	183,258	71,442	254,700
1889	183,617	64,537	248,154

LAGOS.

British Sailing Vessels Entered and Cleared in the Colony of Lagos in the Years 1888 *and* 1889.

ENTERED.

Year.	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1888 - - -	—	—	—	1	393	10	1	393	10
1889 - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

CLEARED.

1888 - - -	1	393	10	—	—	—	1	393	10
1889 - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Foreign Sailing Vessels Entered and Cleared in the Colony of Lagos in the Years 1888 *and* 1889.

ENTERED.

Year.	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1888 - - -	19	5,020	174	—	—	—	19	5,020	174
1889 - - -	14	4,146	139	—	—	—	14	4,146	139

CLEARED.

1888 - - -	21	5,603	194	—	—	—	21	5,603	194
1889 - - -	14	4,146	144	—	—	—	14	4,146	144

British Steam Vessels Entered and Cleared in the Colony of Lagos in the Years 1888 *and* 1889.

ENTERED.

Year.	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1888 - - -	206	184,564	8,298	11	4,166	342	217	188,730	8,640
1889 - - -	187	182,140	8,005	10	2,875	267	197	185,015	8,272

CLEARED.

1888 - - -	198	179,278	8,146	12	3,980	361	210	183,258	8,507
1889 - - -	177	177,360	7, 59	17	6,257	525	194	183,617	8,114

Foreign Steam Vessels Entered and Cleared in the Colony of Lagos in the Years 1888 *and* 1889.

ENTERED.

Year.	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
1888 - - -	194	67,948	5,254	10	3,070	248	204	71,018	5,502
1889 - - -	172	61,423	4,045	14	2,633	243	186	64,056	4,288

CLEARED.

1888 - - -	154	65,172	4,047	49	6,270	923	203	71,442	4,970
1889 - - -	147	62,046	3,664	41	2,491	691	188	64,537	4,355

Agriculture.

The state of agriculture remained the same; the staple product being palm oil and kernels. As the palm requires, or at all events receives, no attention beyond the gathering of the crop no improvement in its cultivation can be reported.

LAGOS.

Owing to the work of the botanic station it may be hoped that in time new articles for export will be produced in the future.

From January to the end of the year 21,915 coffee plants and 3,638 cacoas were distributed from the garden, while many other plants of economic value were either sold to or gratuitously distributed among the natives.

Seeds of Egyptian and American cotton, anatto, &c. were likewise distributed. In the same period the sum of 93*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* was received for plants, seeds, and vegetables sold.

It may be fairly hoped and expected that the agricultural prospects of the Colony will be much enhanced by the efforts made by the botanic station to establish among the natives new plants of commercial value, and to introduce more valuable species of plants now existing, *e.g.* cotton.

Gaols and Prisoners.

The total number of prisoners admitted was 308, including two women and four juveniles. Of these, 195 had been previously convicted.

The sanitary state of the prison was good, the daily average of inmates being 134 and the daily average on the sick list being five. There were within the prison walls two deaths during the year from natural causes.

The escapes of prisoners while employed beyond the gaol were two; the same as in 1887 and 1888.

The total cost of the prison was 1,836*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*

During the year the sum of 830*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* was expended on the erection of solitary cells, under a general scheme for the improvement, or rather reconstruction, of the prison.

The earnings of the prisoners were as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Bricklaying	447	13	6
Bookbinding	73	3	0
Carpentering	88	16	0
Mat and basket making	110	9	6
Rope making	71	17	0
Tailoring	15	13	0
Miscellaneous	202	8	0
Out-Door.			
Public works	21	1	8
Roads, streets, and bridges	158	12	9
Sanitary	81	18	0
Transport	41	11	7
Miscellaneous	20	18	7
	£1,334	2	3

Criminal Statistics.

From the following comparative table it will be seen that there is a marked decrease in the number of convictions for offences against the person, and also a decrease in convictions for offences against property; while the total number of persons apprehended or summoned is less by 20 than in 1888.

Comparative Table showing the number of Offences, Apprehensions, Convictions, and Acquittals for the last four years.

—	1889.	1888.	1887.	1886.
Number of offences reported to the police - -	22	25	28	12
Number of persons apprehended by police, or summoned before magistrate.	708	728	880	715
Number of summary convictions—				
1. For offences against the person - -	86	136	188	102
2. For cattle stealing and arson - -	10	13	8	6
3. For offences against property other than cattle stealing and arson.	81	89	85	80
4. For other offences - - - -	105	126	134	111
Number of convictions in Superior Court—				
1. For offences against the person - -	23	15	36	37
2. For cattle stealing and arson - -	1	—	—	—
3. For offences against property other than cattle stealing and arson.	19	38	32	27
4. For other offences - - - -	8	17	14	9
The number of persons acquitted—				
1. In the Inferior Courts - - -	270	255	250	255
2. In the Superior Courts - - -	36	26	26	30

Of the 308 prisoners, 150 were Heathen, 104 Mohammedans, and 54 Christians. Three Europeans were imprisoned. The number of prisoners discharged was 184.

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	£	*s.*	*d.*
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Bookbinding	73	3	0
Carpentering	88	16	0
Mat and basket making	110	9	6
Rope making	71	17	0
Tailoring	15	13	0
Miscellaneous	202	8	0

OUT-DOOR.

Public works	21	1	8
Roads, streets, and bridges	158	12	9
Sanitary	81	18	0
Transport	41	11	7
Miscellaneous	20	18	7
	£1,334	2	3

Criminal Statistics.

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LAGOS.

Criminal Statistics.

Statement showing the number of Committals during the Years 1888 *and* 1889.

	1888.	1889.
District Commissioner's Court - -	364	351
Superior Court - - - -	70	87
Inspector General - - - -	56	25
Political prisoners - - - -	—	—
Total - - -	480	463

A.

Criminal Statistics 1888–89.

Year.	Total Number of Offences reported.	Offences against the Person.	Cattle Stealing and Arson.	Offences against Property other than Prædial Larceny.	Other Offences.
1888 - - -	25	3	—	22	—
1889 - - -	22	—	—	22	—
Total -	47	3	—	44	—

B.

Apprehensions and Summonses, and Disposition of foregoing Cases.

Year.	Number Discharged for Want of Prosecution.	Number of Cases dismissed on the Merits.	Number of Persons summarily Convicted.	Number of Cases committed for Trial in the Superior Courts.
1888 - -	177	88	483	85
1889 - -	179	91	351	87
Total -	356	179	834	172

C.

Distribution under Offences of Summary Conviction.

Year.	Assaults and other Offences against the Person.	Malicious Injuries to Property.	Cattle Stealing and Arson.	Other Offences to Property.	Offences relating to Social Economy.	Offences against Master and Servant Acts.	Other Offences.	Total.
1888 -	136	1	13	88	42	9	75	264
1889 -	92	—	9	81	21	15	62	280
Total -	228	1	22	169	63	24	137	544

D.

Punishment in connexion with foregoing.

Year.	Fine.	Imprisonment in lieu of Fine or Surety.	Peremptory Imprisonment.	Whipping.	Bound over with or without Sureties or other Minor Punishment.	Total.	Remarks.
1888 -	189	14	147	—	14	364	
1889 -	129	4	118	—	29	280	
Total -	318	18	265	—	43	644	

E.

Informations in the Supreme Court.

Year.	Murder, other than Wife and Child Murder.	Manslaughter.	Attempt to Murder.	Murder of Wife, reputed Wife, or Concubine.	Child Murder.	Concealment of Birth.	Abortion.	Rape.	Unnatural Crimes.	Other offences against the Person.	Malicious injuries to Property.	Robbery with Violence.	Cattle stealing and Arson.	Other offences against Property.	Miscellaneous Offences.	Total.
1888	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	18	—	7	—	44	19	96
1889	1	5	1	—	—	—	—	5	—	24	2	—	1	26	22	87

F.

Statement as to ending of Cases tried in the Supreme Court.

Year.	Judgment for the Crown.	Judgment for the Prisoner.	Prisoners found Insane.	Case fell through for want of Prosecution or Nolle Prosequi entered.	Total.	Remarks.
1888 - -	70	20	2	4	96	
1889 - -	51	13	0	23	87	

G.

The Number of Offences, Apprehensions, Convictions, and Acquittals for the Years 1888–1889 *are afforded in the following Comparative Table:—*

Headings.	1888.	1889.
Apprehensions - - -	728	708
Convictions - - -	434	333
Acquittals - - -	291	306

Hospitals.

The hospital accommodation consists of the Colonial Hospital and the Ereko Dispensary. The latter was opened during the year, and rules for its regulation were passed by the Legislative Council on the 7th November. On the 14th February an Ordinance was passed "For the more effectual regulation and better "management of public hospitals and dispensaries."

During the year 2,940 out-patients were treated, while the in-patients numbered 642; 57 of the latter being Europeans.

In addition to the above, five cases of leprosy were treated in the Contagious Diseases Hospital.

The number of deaths recorded is 44.

No case of small-pox occurred.

5,911 persons were vaccinated. Of the inoculations 4,203 are reported as successful, 809 as unsuccessful, and 899 did not return.

Lunatics are not treated in the Colony, there being no asylum.

Under Ordinance No. 3 of 1885 provision is made for their removal to Kissy Asylum (Sierra Leone), the expenses of transport, detention, and treatment being defrayed by the Colony.

The Meteorology of the Colony of Lagos for the Year 1889.

Months.	Barometer. Mean Pressure.	Air Temperature. At 8 a.m.	At 4 p.m.	Mean.	Means of Minimum.	Means of Maximum.	Mean Daily Range of Temperature.	Mean Temperature.	Absolute Temperature. Minimum on Date.	Absolute Temperature. Maximum on Date.	Vapour Tension. At 8 a.m.	At 4 p.m.	Mean.	Relative Humidity. At 8 a.m.	At 4 p.m.	Mean.
January -	30·05	79	84	81	75	83	8	79	69 on 23.	91 on 31.	·881	·8605	·870	87	73·4	80·2
February -	30·05	81	85	83	77	85	8	81	71 on 22.	91 on 21.	·846	·696	·771	83	70	76
March -	30·05	84	86	85	78	87	9	82	70 on 17.	91 on 19, 20, 21, 27, 28.	·880	·800	·840	79	77	78
April - -	30·05	83	85	84	76	86	10	81	69 on 19, 20, 21.	91 on 1, 3, 8.	·858	·874	·866	77	71	74
May - -	30·06	82	84	83	75	85	10	80	69 on 18.	89 on 1, 2, 4, 5.	·882	·858	·870	80	78	79
June - -	30·05	78	81	79	72	82	10	77	68 on 16.	88 on 5, 7, 17.	·884	·824	·854	81	76	78
July - -	30·05	77	78	77	71	79	8	75	68 on 27 & 28.	86 on 3.	·808	·791	·799	86	80	83
August -	30·05	77	79	78	71	79	8	75	68 on 2, 9, 24, 31.	84 on 16.	·783	·760	·771	83	76	79
September -	30·05	73	79	76	71	79	8	75	65 on 4.	84 on 30.	·782	·731	·756	84	78	81
October -	30·05	78	80	79	71	81	10	76	65 on 5.	87 on 26, 30, 31.	·826	·801	·813	85	76	80
November -	30·05	78	81	79	71	85	14	78	65 on 26.	91 on 22.	·797	·777	·787	81	65	73
December -	30·05	77	85	81	75	85	10	80	73 on 18, 21, 22, 25, 26.	90 on 1, 5, 25.	·871	·854	·862	91	70	80

69.30. o D

The Meteorology of the Colony of Lagos for the Year 1889—continued.

Months.	Amount of Cloud.			Weather.				Rainfall.		Direction of Wind.									
	At 8 a.m.	At 4 p.m.	Mean.	No. of days of				Total.	Maximum on Date.	No. of Observations of									
				Rain.	Thunder Storms.	Clear Sky.	Overcast.			North.	North East.	East.	South East.	South.	South West.	West.	North West.	Calm.	Total.
January -	5	4	4	2	—	3	1	1·65	1·64 on 22nd.	3	—	1	—	6	16	16	—	—	—
February -	5	4	4	4	—	2	—	1·09	·55 on 23rd.	4	—	—	—	8	15	11	—	—	—
March -	5	5	5	3	—	1	1	·39	·19 on 6th.	—	—	—	1	6	21	10	1	—	—
April - -	5	6	5	8	—	—	—	6·62	2·11 on 18th.	5	—	1	—	8	24	13	—	—	—
May - -	5	5	5	11	—	—	—	10·94	2·70 on 12th.	5	—	—	—	7	24	23	—	—	—
June - -	5	6	5	12	—	—	—	15·18	5 in. on 21st.	3	3	—	—	3	25	21	1	—	—
July - -	5	4	4	10	—	—	—	10·18	2·50 on 24th & 26th.	—	—	—	—	5	25	14	1	—	—
August -	4	4	4	8	—	—	—	1·89	·95 on 31st.	—	—	—	—	2	26	20	4	—	—
September -	6	6	6	10	—	—	—	3·66	1 in. on 26th.	—	—	—	1	—	25	17	6	—	—
October -	7	7	7	13	—	—	—	9·07	2 in. on 7th & 22nd.	6	8	2	—	6	19	9	7	—	—
November -	7	7	7	4	—	—	—	1·29	·80 on the 5th.	15	7	—	—	6	18	4	4	—	—
December -	7	7	7	1	—	—	—	·03	·03 on 11th.	16	4	—	—	7	22	3	9	—	—

W. R. HENDERSON,
Acting Colonial Surgeon.

Savings Bank.

There is one savings bank at Lagos, which was established under authority of Ordinance No. 3 of 1886.

The number of depositors on the 31st December was 111. The sum of 2,707*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.* was deposited, and 1,442*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* withdrawn, during the year. The total amount standing to the credit of depositors on the same date was 3,423*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.*, of which 3,050*l.* is invested as shown in the statement of Investments of the Colony. The rate of interest allowed on deposits is 2½ per cent.

(Signed) ALFRED MOLONEY,
Governor,
British Honduras.

Belize,
15th November 1891.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

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No. 32.

LAGOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(For Report for 1889 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 31.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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107	Barbados	,,
108	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
109	Western Australia	,,
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	,,
113	Falkland Islands	,,
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
116	Fiji	,,
117	Hong Kong	,,
118	St. Helena	,,

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6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	,,
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	,,
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
13	Gibraltar	,,
14	Zululand	,,
15	Sierra Leone	,,
16	Barbados	,,
17	Falkland Islands	,,
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,

No. 32.

LAGOS.

(For Report for 1889 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 31.)

Governor CARTER to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Lagos
November 7, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1890, accompanied by an interesting Report from the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. T. CARTER,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Colonial Secretariat, Lagos,
November 7, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the Blue Book for the year 1890, and to offer the following explanatory remarks upon its contents.

2. In its preparation I have been much assisted by Mr. Henry Carr, Chief Clerk in the Secretariat, who has carried through almost the whole compilation with but few references to me.

Taxes, Duties, and Fees.

3. No new taxes were introduced during the year. Ordinances requiring dogs to be licensed and providing for the levying of light dues were, however, passed by the Legislature, but their operation was postponed until 1891.

Revenue and Expenditure.

4. The balance to the credit of the Colony on the 1st of January amounted to 35,819*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.* The revenue collected was 56,340*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*, and the expenditure for the year amounted to 63,700*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.* The balance, therefore, carried forward from the 31st of December was 28,459*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

5. The revenue was slightly below that for 1889, but it exceeded the estimate by 58*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*

Lagos.

6. The expenditure contemplated by the Supply Ordinance for 1890 was 57,924*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*; the estimate was therefore exceeded by 5,776*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* This increase was due to the carrying out of certain public works, notably the lighthouse, at a cost of 4,086*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*; survey of Lagos, 1,183*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, and also to purchase of property, special ammunition for machine guns, and sundry other items not sanctioned until the year had actually commenced; these together amounted to 10,819*l.* 15*s.*

Public Works.

7. The most important public work taken up during the year was the erection of a lighthouse at Abekun, near the Government Sanitarium. A better class of light for Lagos was much needed, and this undertaking may be considered a decided success.

8. The construction of the Marina Embankment was continued, 387⅓ yards of it being completed at a cost of 1,540*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.*

9. The survey of Lagos Island by a detachment of the Royal Engineers under Lieutenant Buckland was commenced, and a sum of 1,575*l.* was expended in the purchase of two properties, viz., a block of land with buildings on it adjoining the Treasury and Customs compound, and that known as the Colonial Surgeon's quarters.

10. The vote "Current repairs, additions, alterations, and maintenance of Government buildings" was responsible for 833*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.*, and 573*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* was devoted to the "Upkeep of roads, streets, and bridges."

11. In the out-districts 235¼ miles of unmetalled road connecting the different towns and villages were cleared and kept open by the Native Chiefs in return for the stipends which they receive from the Government.

Government House.

12. The new Government House has not yet been commenced, but the plans have been approved, and the necessary expenditure authorised, and it is hoped that the new building will be completed by the autumn of 1893. The present structure has been described too often to need any further comment from me.

13. It will be necessary to erect a new house at Badagry very shortly, but that at Leckie is in fair order, and, with some trifling repairs, will last for many years.

Councils.

14. The only new permanent appointment was that of Mr. John Dalziel Fairley to the Legislative Council on the 27th of June. Messrs. William Hammond and Charles James George were, however, re-appointed, and the latter took the customary oath on the 24th of October. Captain Hammond, who has been absent from the Colony since the 3rd of June, has not yet subscribed to the oath.

15. The Councils were presided over by Captain Denton from the 1st of January to the 20th of February, and from that date to the end of the year by Sir Alfred Moloney.

16. The other appointments mentioned in the Blue Book were of a temporary nature and need no comment.

Legislature.

17. During 1890 10 Ordinances were passed by the Legislature, and in due course they received the Royal Assent.

No. 1.—An Ordinance to amend the Births, Deaths, and Burials Ordinance, repeals sections 14, 39, 42, 62, and 65 of the principal Ordinance, and amends it in the following particulars:—(*a*) In default of the parent makes the master or other officer in charge responsible for the registration of children who are born in vessels upon the territorial waters of the Colony; (*b*) requires that no body of a deceased person or still-born child shall be buried until an order shall have been made by the coroner, or a certificate have been granted by the Registrar, and provides that all burials shall take place within 24 hours of the issue of such order or certificate; (*c*) enacts that no burial shall take place in any district except in a licensed cemetery; (*d*) imposes a penalty not exceeding 20*l.* for any breach of the provisions relating to burials; and (*e*) substitutes for the penalties laid down in section 65 of the original Ordinance a term of imprisonment with or without hard labour not exceeding five years.

Ordinance No. 2 repeals a portion of section 14 of Ordinance No. 10 of 1876, providing for the payment of fees to the Assistant Collector of Customs for extra services.

Ordinance No. 3 repeals section 117 of Ordinance No. 10 of 1876, and enacts that the exporters of goods for which no bond is required shall within 14 days make entry of them, or in default forfeit a penalty of 20*l.*

Ordinance No. 4, entitled "An Ordinance to establish and "regulate an Inland Colonial Post Office," deals with all matters connected with the inland post of the Colony.

Ordinance No. 5 makes further provision concerning the application of the laws of the Colony to adjacent territories, and legalises the exercise of jurisdiction in the past by the courts of the Colony in such territories.

Ordinance No. 6, "The Supplementary Supply Ordinance, 1889."

Ordinance No. 7 ordains that any persons keeping dogs shall take out a license for each dog at a cost of 2*s.* 6*d.*, provides for the seizing, selling, or destruction of dangerous dogs, and gives power to the District Commissioner to restrict dogs being at large when danger from mad dogs is apprehended.

Ordinance No. 8 was passed to regulate dealings in arms and ammunition, and prohibits, amongst other things, their sale, &c. by unlicensed persons under a penalty not exceeding 100*l.*

LAGOS.

Ordinance No. 9, "The Supply Ordinance, 1890," legalises an expenditure of 57,339*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.* for the service of the year 1891.

Ordinance No. 10 provides for the levying of light-dues and the protection of lights, buoys, and beacons. Under it a duty of 2*s.* 6*d.* for the first 25 tons and 2*s.* for every additional 25 tons of portion thereof of a vessel's registered burden is required to be paid to the principal officer of Customs. Branch steamers, *i.e.*, steamers belonging to the port which bring cargo and passengers over the bar, are, however, exempted from the payment of these dues. It is expected that a revenue of between 700*l.* and 800*l.* a year will be received from this source.

Civil Establishment.

18. The Government of the Colony was administered by Captain G. C. Denton, the Colonial Secretary, from the 1st of January to the 20th of February, and from that date to the end of the year by the Governor, Sir Alfred Moloney.

Six months' leave of absence, which was afterwards extended to nine months, was granted to Captain G. C. Denton, the Colonial Secretary, from the 28th of February, and during the absence of this officer the duties of Colonial Secretary were discharged by the Hon. Oliver Smith, Queen's Advocate.

The Hon. Oliver Smith, Queen's Advocate, returned from leave on the 26th of February and resumed his duties.

The Hon. W. J. P. Elliott, Treasurer, returned from leave on the 16th of August.

Mr. H. M. B. Griffith, Collector of Customs, in addition to his legitimate duties, acted as Treasurer from the 1st of January to the 11th of June, when he was granted leave of absence for six months. The acting appointments of Treasurer and Collector were taken over by Mr. E. H. Richards, District Commissioner, who held them until the arrival of the Hon. W. J. P. Elliott on the 16th of August.

M. J. A. Rowse performed the duties of Colonial Surveyor from the 1st of January to the 27th of August, on which date Mr. Frank Anderson, the Colonial Surveyor, returned from leave of absence.

Captain Speeding, Harbour Master, proceeded on six months' leave of absence on the 16th of August, his duties being taken over by Captain A. J. Shuttleworth, Master of Government vessels.

Chief Justice Smalman Smith returned from leave on the 8th of June. During his absence Mr. E. H. Richards acted as Chief Justice.

For the year the following officers held the post of District Commissioner of Lagos:—Mr. G. B. Haddon Smith, 1st January to 22nd February; Mr. G. Stallard, 22nd February to 7th June; Mr. Alvan Millson, 7th June to 18th August, Mr. R. S. Johnstone, 18th August to 31st December.

Dr. Rowland was absent from the Colony from the 28th of February to the 7th of December, and for this period Dr. W. R. Henderson acted as Colonial Surgeon.

Vital Statistics.

19. During the year 268 births, 61 marriages, and 1,211 deaths were registered, but this cannot be accepted as any guide, registration not being compulsory. Of the 1,211 who died only 5 were Europeans. From the recent census the population of the Colony and Protectorate is approximately 85,607. The town of Lagos was not found to be nearly so large as was anticipated, as only 32,508 inhabitants were enumerated against 37,452 in 1881. Of this number 142 were of either pure European or American blood. At the same time it is right that I should point out that it is not thought that the population of the town has decreased, the falling off being considered to be due to a more effectual enumeration brought about by a better system of payment to the enumerators. It is also well known that large numbers of the people left the town to avoid the census, of which they have a great dread, brought about by the idea that it will eventually mean increased taxation.

Banks.

20. The Treasury Savings Bank which was established in 1886 is much appreciated. On the 31st of December there were 181 depositors, and the total of the deposits amounted to 5,863*l.* 0*s.* 7½*d.* The deposits are increasing rapidly.

Ecclesiastical.

21. There were in the Colony 33 places of Christian worship, made up as follows:—Church of England, 18; Wesleyan, 10; Roman Catholic, 4; and Baptist 1, with an average attendance estimated at 6,551 persons. They are almost entirely dependent on missionary bodies in Europe and America, with the exception of the churches belonging to the Lagos Church Pastorate, which are, to a certain extent, self-supporting.

Education.

22. The number of schools in the Colony amounted to 47, and of these 41 received aid from the Government. The number on the rolls stood at 3,085, and there was a total average attendance of 2,155 scholars.

Lagos.

The Government aid amounted to 1,013*l.* 10*s.*, and was granted in the following proportion :—

Number of Scholars.	Number of Schools.	Denomination.	Amount received.
			£ *s.* *d.*
1,738	25	Church of England - - -	553 4 6
611	8	Roman Catholic - - - -	334 16 6
646	12	Wesleyan - - - -	104 15 0
90	2	Baptist - - - - -	20 14 0
3,085	47	4	1,013 10 0

There can be no question but that the number of pupils is on the increase, but there is still room for great improvement. No successful means of reaching the Mohammedan section of the population has yet been arrived at, and they continue to hold aloof from the denominational schools and will not as yet allow their own schools to be brought under Government inspection. As I have said in a previous report on this subject,* time alone can bring about improved conditions of education, and I have great hopes that as the older and more conservative of the Mohammedans pass away, the new generation which is springing up may grasp the advantages which are to be derived from a good education, and abandon the idea now held by many of them that it is not good for their children to know more than themselves.

Judged from a pecuniary point of view, the present scheme of payment by results, which was introduced into the Colony in 1888, has been very satisfactory. The following comparative statement shows that both the number of pupils and the aid given have largely increased under it, and I take it that these are sound criterions of success.

	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars.	Grant.
			£ *s.* *d.*
1887 - -	31	2,657	604 0 0
1888 - -	26	2,363	735 0 0
1889 - - -	30	2,645	1,076 12 2
1890 - - -	47	3,085	1,013 10 0

There are, of course, objections to the system, but in a country where the teachers as a rule require stimulating even more than

* See page 8 of Colonial Report No. 80 (Old Series) [C. 5897–10], February 1890.

the pupils, the benefits derived from the additional energy which it throws into the teaching outweigh, in my opinion, the disadvantages which may arise from undue cramming, &c., &c.

On the 24th of December the second exhibition of school work was held. The exhibits, which were of a very creditable description, numbered 850, and 20 schools were represented at it. Large numbers, by their presence, showed great interest in the exhibition, and the attendance of the non-English-speaking native element was especially good. It is hoped that it will be found possible to continue this exhibition on more extended lines as it has undoubtedly given considerable stimulus to education.

In another building adjoining the main Exhibition Hall exhibits from the Public Works Department, Prison, and printing office were on view. These included examples of turning in metal and wood, castings, sawing, prepared fibres in various stages, brush making, mat and basket making, rope making, and book-binding, as well as printing work. This Exhibition was as well attended as that of the school products and quite as much interest was evinced in it.

Imports and Exports.

23. The value of the imports for the year 1890 amounted to 500,828*l.*, or 56,270*l.* more than the average of the 10 preceding years.

Of this sum, spirits were estimated to be worth 81,492*l.*, wines 2,258*l.*, tobacco 16,745*l.*, and cotton goods 194,322*l.*

Exports also improved during the year, as their estimated value was 595,193*l.*, as against an average of 558,464*l.*, for the 10 preceding years. The principal articles and quantities were palm oil 3,200,824 gallons, valued at 190,257*l.*, and palm kernels 38,828 tons, estimated as worth 319,276*l.*

From this it will be seen that the trade of the Colony is healthy, and as the improvement, to even a more marked extent, continues, it may, I submit, be fairly said that the efforts to develop the interior country behind Lagos have not been fruitless.

Agricultural.

24. It is impossible to arrive at any accurate conclusion with regard to the area of cultivated land in the Colony and Protectorate, but, judging by the large quantities of yams, maize, guinea corn and other provisions which are sold in the neighbouring markets, it must be very considerable. There was a good sale of Liberian coffee from the Botanic Station, and some plantations of it have been established on the mainland near Ebute Metta.

The sales of land were five in all, but as payment was by instalment, the actual revenue received from this source during the year was small.

Botanic Station.

25. The establishment of this institution has been attended with great success, and it is proving of much use to the surrounding

country. On the 31st of December there were 37,972 different plants growing in pots ready for distribution, and 328 different specimens permanently established in the garden. During the year 91*l.* 6*s.* was received for the sale of plants and vegetables, and 7,848 Liberian coffee seedlings were issued on payment to the public.

The number of visitors to the Botanic Station during the year was 252.

Gaols and Prisons.

26. The new prison is not yet completed; 93 cells on the solitary system are, however, in use, and another block containing 38 cells will be finished during 1891. The entire prison with necessary out-buildings, &c., is expected to be ready for occupation early in 1893.

In addition to the prison at headquarters there are district prisons at Badagry and Leckie, where prisoners who have been summarily convicted of crimes committed within the district are confined for periods of three months and under. They cannot be considered satisfactory places of punishment, and in my opinion it is advisable that they should be abolished. Should this be done all sentences of imprisonment could be inflicted in Lagos, a strong police lock-up being all that would be necessary at the out-stations.

The extreme penalty of the law was carried out on one occasion, and in nine instances penal servitude for more than five years was imposed.

On the whole, it may be said that whilst the convictions in 1890 outnumbered those in 1889 and 1888 the acquittals were fully 33 per cent. less than in the years named.

Hospitals.

27. For so large a place the daily average attendance at the Lagos hospital is small, but as the institution becomes more known and appreciated it will no doubt be better attended. The building leaves much to be desired; the site, however, is excellent and the administration very good. A new hospital is to be commenced at once, and when it is completed Lagos will hold its own with any of the smaller colonies in this direction.

A special feature of the Medical Department in this Colony is a dispensary, which was established in 1889, in the more populous part of the town. Far more outdoor patients are treated at this institution than at the Colonial hospital, and it has undoubtedly given relief to large numbers of the poorer classes.

During the year the health of the community was good and there was no sickness of an epidemic nature.

General.

28. The only events which call for special comment were a mission to Yoruba Land by Mr. Alvan Millson, Assistant Colonial Secretary, and the arrival at an agreement between England and

France under which the western boundary of the Colony is fixed and the French and English spheres of influence defined.

With regard to Mr. Millson's expedition to the interior, which had for its object the arrangement of a meeting between the Governor of Lagos and representative delegates from Ilorin and Ibadan for the purpose of discussing the best means of terminating the war that has been carried on between the tribes named for so long a time, it was not altogether successful, as the Ilorins declined to treat in any way with our representative. Notwithstanding this, much good was in my opinion effected by it, and I feel convinced that a closer and more stable connexion with the peoples of the interior can only be brought about by visits of this nature from British officers.

The agreement with France has so far proved satisfactory to the Colony, and in the kingdom of Pokra, which we received in exchange for Ketonu, we have a rich and fertile country that should eventually prove a great source of wealth to Lagos.

Under existing circumstances it is impossible to arrange for the collection of import duties on the Addo and Adjarra rivers in an effectual manner, but when the definitive Customs Agreement contemplated by the fifth section of Article IV. of the principal Agreement is arrived at a very fair revenue should be derived from this part of the Colony and Protectorate.

Retrospective.

29. As the Blue Book now under report completes the series for the first five years since Lagos was erected into a separate Colony, it may not be out of place if I briefly describe the conditions which have existed and what has been effected during that period.

The revenue has averaged 55,174*l.* as against 51,810*l.* for the preceding five years, and expenditure has been 63,204*l.* as against 43,057*l.*

The only new duty introduced is that imposed under Ordinance No. 4 of 1888, entitled "An Ordinance for granting certain stamp duties." The revenue received from this source has been but small, and at the present rate of collection does not exceed 200*l.* per annum.

A fair amount of legislation has been put through during the five years, as no less than 54 Ordinances, irrespective of rules, have been passed by the Legislative Council. Some of these are important and lengthy enactments, which imposed considerable work on members, and the thanks of the community should be given to the unofficial element for the free, ungrudging manner in which they devoted no inconsiderable a portion of their valuable time to the public interests.

LAGOS.

Civil Establishment.

30. When Lagos was erected into a separate Colony in February 1886 Mr. C. A. Moloney, C.M.G., was appointed Administrator In May 1887 the title of the officer administering the Government was altered to Governor, but no change in the holder of the position was made. Mr. F. Evans, C.M.G., was the first Colonial Secretary of the new Colony; he was however, promoted in 1888, and Captain G. C. Denton succeeded him.

The assistant Colonial Secretaries were Mr. Henry Higgins, from January 1886 to 31st August 1889, and Mr. Alvan Millson, from 1st September 1889.

Mr. Oliver Smith, who was appointed Queen's Advocate in May 1886, still continues in the office.

The position of Treasurer was held by Mr. Woolhouse from 1st of July 1886 to August 1889, and from the latter date to the end of 1890 by Mr. W. J. P. Elliott.

The Collectors of Customs during the period under report were Mr. Worall, Mr. Elliott, and Mr. H. M. Brandford Griffith.

Mr. Edmund Peel was Inspector-General of Constabulary from the 15th of July 1886 to the 31st of December 1890. Previous to the former date no appointment to this office had been made.

Mr. Moran was the first Inspector of Constabulary, but he was transferred to the Gold Coast Mr. Higginson being sent from the Gambia to take his place. Assistant Inspectors Tarbet and Haddon Smith were appointed in October and November 1886 respectively and still continue to hold office.

Dr. Grant, who died in July 1887, held the office of Colonial Surgeon from the date of the erection of the Colony until his death. He was succeeded by Dr. Rowland.

The following officers held the permanent appointment of Assistant Colonial Surgeon:— Dr. Cecil Digby from 16th May 1886 to the end of January 1889; Dr. Edward Mattei from May 1886 to November 1888, and Dr. W. R. Henderson from 5th November 1889 to the present date.

Drs. Johnson and Randle, Native Assistant Colonial Surgeons, were appointed on the 1st of May 1889 and continue to hold office.

In November 1885 Mr. G. H. Ross was appointed Colonial Surveyor. He died in August 1888, and Mr. Frank Anderson, Assistant Colonial Surveyor, was promoted to the position which became vacant by the death of Mr. Ross.

Mr. Smalman Smith was sole Judge of the Colony from its separation from the Gold Coast until he was appointed Chief Justice; this latter office he still holds.

Vital and Sanitary Statistics.

31. It is impossible to furnish any reliable information on this point as far as the native population is concerned; I therefore

propose to confine my remarks to the Europeans and Americans living in Lagos. The average annual number of residents from 1881 to 1885 was 107; the average number of deaths for the same period was $8\frac{3}{5}$ per annum; the death rate was therefore as nearly as possible 8 per cent. Calculations on a similar basis show that from 1886 to 1890, inclusive, the average number of Europeans and Americans was $110\frac{3}{5}$; there were in all 44 deaths for the five years, giving an average of $8\frac{4}{5}$ per annum; the death rate, therefore, for the second period was much the same as for the first, viz., nearly 8 per cent.

Much has been and is being done to improve the sanitary condition of the town: the swamps in its immediate vicinity are being gradually filled up and a better system of scavenging has been introduced. A large number of wells has been sunk by the Government, from which fairly good water is obtained. Rain-water tanks have been provided for all officers' quarters and public institutions, and the planting out of eucalyptus in considerable quantities has been resorted to in the hope that in this way the malarious character of the climate may be to some extent counteracted. But when all is said and done the fact remains that it is almost impossible to conquer by sanitary measures and precautions so bad a climate as is unfortunately to be found in Lagos.

Education.

32. During the five years which have passed since Lagos was erected into a separate Colony education has undoubtedly made great progress. At the commencement of 1886 there were 30 schools; in 1890 the number had risen to 47. Formerly these were entirely under the control and management of the different missionary bodies, but a certain amount of assistance was given by the Government in the shape of a grant of 600*l.* per annum, which was divided equally between the Church of England, Roman Catholic, and Wesleyan denominations. The Government also provided for the part salary of an Inspector of Schools, whose services were shared with the Gambia, Sierra Leone, and the Gold Coast Colonies. This system, however, did not work satisfactorily, and in May 1887 an ordinance was introduced putting matters on a new footing. By this enactment a Board of Education, with the Governor as President, was established and the disposal of the Government grant was placed in the hands of this body. In December of the same year regulations providing a scheme of payment and dealing with all details relating to the management of schools were passed.

The new departure was at first very unpopular with the managers of schools, but time has shown that the evils feared were for the most part imaginary and it is now generally appreciated. As far as the Government is concerned the grants are decidedly increased, but it is admitted on all sides that a more than corresponding progress has followed the additional expenditure on education.

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In 1888, the first year of the new system, there was a slight falling off in the number of the pupils, but this speedily righted itself, and the last school report shows that there are some 15 per cent. more names in the rolls in 1890 than in 1886, and also that the record in this respect for 1890 is about 16 per cent. above the average for the five years.

Although much has been done to afford better educational opportunities and advantages to the people of Lagos, one cannot be blind to the fact that there still remains a very great deal to be effected before the Colony can be said to be equal in this respect to even the smaller West Indian Islands. A better system of supervision is most necessary, and it is to be hoped that the Inspector of Schools may himself be able to give more time to this very important part of his duties. The appointment of a Sub-Inspector of Schools who will reside in the Colony, and whose work it will be to constantly visit the different schools, is arranged for, and no doubt this will have a decidedly beneficial effect.

Two exhibitions of school work have been held under the auspices of the Board of Education, with capital results, the prizes being keenly competed for. A great deal of interest has without question been elicited in this way both from parents and pupils, as was apparent from the large number of persons who were present on both occasions.

The following figures speak for themselves:—

Year.	Number of Pupils on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Proportion (per cent.) of Number presented for Examination.	Grant.
				£ s. d.
1888 - -	2,363	1737·	—	735 0 0
1889 - -	2,645	1799·2	87·8	1,076 12 2
1890 - -	3,085	2155·06	88·4	1,013 10 0

Botanic Station.

33. The Botanic Station was established in November 1887 on the site of the old West Indian Barracks at Ebute Metta under the auspices of the Royal Gardens, Kew. Mr. McNair, from Jamaica, was the first curator, and to him must be given the credit of starting what has proved a great success. In a place such as Lagos the difficulties which attend any enterprise of an agricultural or horticultural nature are very great, and without a personal experience it is almost impossible to imagine the obstacles with which you have to contend. These have, however, been conquered to a great extent, and it is now a very thriving little station. During the three years it has been in existence over 42,000 seed-

lings of different varieties, but principally Liberian coffee, have been distributed from it, and a collection of plants has been supplied to the Cameroons Botanic Station. 219*l.* has been received for the sale of plants and vegetables.

Public Works.

34. During the five years many new public works have been undertaken. The following return gives the more important of them, and also shows which are completed and the amount of money which has been expended on them:—

Name of Work.	Expenditure to 31st December 1890.	Whether completed or not.
	£	
Prison - - - - -	5,876	Incomplete.
Marina Embankment - - -	6,967	„
Police station - - - -	1,335	Completed.
Survey of Lagos - - -	1,184	Incomplete.
Sanitarium - - - -	907	Completed.
Petroleum magazine - - -	264	„
Slaughter-house and fish market -	1,693	„
Completion of Five Cowrie Bridge Road	1,351	„
*New Constabulary quarters, with armoury, gunshed, &c.	1,454	„
Lighthouse - - - -	4,086	Incomplete.
Iron latrines - - - -	634	„
Total - -	25,751	

The Marina Embankment may, I think, be said to be the principal work, not only because the largest sum has been expended on it, but also for the reason that it is undoubtedly of the most use to the community generally. Its construction has improved the appearance of the town very considerably and the benefits derived from it, from a sanitary point of view, cannot be overestimated. 1,370 yards were finished on the 31st of December 1890, and the intention is to continue the wall as far as the Powder Magazine; this will take some time to accomplish, and it is very probable that it will be the latter end of 1893 before completion is reached.

* The land on which these quarters are built was purchased for 1,007*l.* in 1887, but this amount is not included in the above sum, as it was only paid this year and did not come into the expenditure of the five years under report.

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The prison is another very important work which calls for special notice. The plans for this institution have been most carefully examined and revised by competent authority in England with a view to ensuring that the design should meet all requirements from a sanitary as well as from a penal point of view. At the end of 1890 quarters for the keeper of the prison, guard room, offices, &c., &c., and two blocks containing 93 cells enclosed within a wall 14 feet in height, were in use; but there still remains to be built the female prison with accommodation on the separate system for 10 prisoners, hospital, warders, quarters, latrines, and lavatories, cells for European prisoners, workshops and cells for untried prisoners. These, it is calculated, will take some three years to erect; it will therefore be the end of 1894 before the Lagos Prison is completed.

The lighthouse was commenced in 1890, but with this building I have dealt in the main body of the report. It is now finished, the light, which is described as a third class dioptric, being lighted for the first time on the 1st of April of the current year. The total cost was nearly 4,300*l.*

Of the other works mentioned in the return I will only say they have generally met the objects for which they were constructed.

In addition to the foregoing sums the amount set forth in the annual estimates has been expended in repairs, additions to, and alterations of, different public buildings.

The under-mentioned properties have been acquired by the Government since the 31st of December 1885:—

Description of Property.	Cost.	Use to which put.
	£	
Banners' house, warehouses, and wharf.	8,000	Treasury and Customs.
House in Broad Street - -	850	Queen's Advocate's quarters.
,, ,, - -	1,125	Colonial Surgeon's quarters.
House in Wesley Street - -	800	Chief Justice's quarters.
Plot of land with house adjacent to Banners' known as Harry Pratt's.	450	To be included in Treasury and Customs.
Coal shed - - -	293	Frontage to Prison.
Total - -	11,518	

That described as Banners' is situated on the Marina in the busiest part of the town, and is well adapted, both from construction and position, to the purposes to which it is put.

The properties now occupied as quarters by the officers named were undoubtedly bargains, the sum paid for them being in each case less than the actual cost of the houses alone. The premises are comparatively new and in good repair, and should only require the ordinary upkeep expenditure for paint, &c. for some time to come.

From its situation, which is within the original compound of Banners' property, it was imperatively necessary to acquire Harry Pratt's. The buildings on it were, however, almost valueless, and should be pulled down.

Marine.

35. In 1887 the steam launches "Constance" and "Gladys" were purchased from the Gold Coast Government for 1,200*l.* The "Constance" was, however, condemned as unserviceable and sold in 1889, but the "Gladys" continues to do good work. In the same year a twin screw launch named the "Kathleen" costing 968*l.* was imported from England for service in the Eastern District, and the stern wheeler yacht "Margaret" was completed at a cost of 11,147*l.* This vessel was built by Messrs. Laird Brothers of Birkenhead, and was sent out in sections and put together in the Colony under the supervision of Mr. Stuart, engineer of Government vessels. Nine European mechanics were locally employed on the work, and her construction occupied 14 months.

The "Margaret" is 120 feet in length and 25 feet in breadth, and only draws 30 inches when loaded.

A small launch, purchased from Messrs. Dickins of Liverpool for 332*l.*, was also sent out in 1890.

From the foregoing remarks it will be gathered that the sums expended on vessels for the use of the Colony during the five years amounted to about 13,648*l.*

Hospitals.

36. The hospitals of the Colony consist of the Colonial Hospital and Contagious Diseases Hospital. In 1888–89 the latter was almost entirely rebuilt, and a boundary wall to the compound eight feet in height was also erected. Though both these institutions are under the house surgeon, who resides in the Colonial Hospital, they are situated about half a mile apart. This would not seem altogether a good plan, but as far as I am informed no difficulties have arisen on this score. It is no easy matter to persuade the native to come into hospital when he is ill, but the following return shows that some progress has been made in this direction:—

Year.	Daily Average of Patients in Hospital during the Year.	Total Number of Patients treated during the Year.		Persons treated in the Externe Department.
		Europeans.	Natives.	
1886 - -	24	No return.		No return.
1887 - -	23	No return.		No return.
1888 - -	23	70	506	7,913
1889 - -	32	57	585	2,940
1890 - -	35	11	686	5,563

With regard to the externe department, a dispensary, where out-door patients receive treatment, was at the latter end of 1889

established in the centre of the town. This branch of the Colonial Hospital becomes every day more popular, and the number of persons who avail themselves of it has very largely increased during the current year. In addition to the numbers shown as treated in the externe department in the above return, 273 cases were attended to at the dispensary in 1889 and 3,233 in 1890.

Vaccination has been steadily carried on, but no returns are forthcoming previous to 1888. Since the commencement of that year, however, it is recorded that 21,572 persons have been operated on. In no less than 15,461 cases successful results were obtained, and the number of unsuccessful cases was 2,878; 3,239 persons failed to return to be inspected by the vaccinator.

Imports and Exports.

37. I regret to say the returns of imports from 1886 to 1890 show a marked falling off on the previous five years, the average deficit being 35,679*l.* This, I am given to understand, is due to the fact that the goods on which the *ad valorem* duty of 4 per cent. is paid are much inferior in quality and price to what was formerly imported. Another reason for the decrease is also to be found, to a certain extent, in the introduction of the cash system which previous to 1886 was almost unknown in the Colony. Now all the kernels, and no inconsiderable a proportion of the oil, are bought for cash, and day by day the old custom of bartering merchandise for produce is less resorted to. This new departure has led to the establishment of several stores whose sole business it is to sell articles of European manufacture for ready money. Already this trade has become large and remunerative, and from it to a great extent the future revenue of Lagos will be obtained. The change in system has undoubtedly been temporarily prejudicial to the interests of the Colony, but this was to be expected, and in the fact that the imports, exports, and revenue for 1891 will be the largest on record we have evidence that a generally improved trade may be hoped for in the future.

Exports from 1881 to 1885 averaged 584,360*l.*, whilst from 1886 to 1890 their value was only 525,504*l.* Here, again, is a great falling off, but this, too, can be satisfactorily accounted for, as for it the low price realised by the staple products (palm oil and kernels) in the European markets is entirely responsible. That this is a correct view of the situation may be gathered from the following figures which represent the average quantities exported during the periods given :—

	Palm Oil.	Palm Kernel.
	Gallons.	Tons.
1885 - - - -	2,291,281	27,158
1890 - - - -	2,720,045	36,899
Average excess - -	428,764	9,741

One serious danger to the commercial prosperity of Lagos is that it depends to such a very large extent on the products of the

oil palm. When anything affects the industry prejudicially it is at once felt and a corresponding falling off in the revenue of necessity follows. Endeavours have been made to induce the inhabitants to take up the cultivation of coffee, cocoa, &c., &c., but up to now it cannot be said that much has been effected in this direction. Three plantations of Liberian coffee have, however, been started on the mainland near Ebute Metta and are doing well, but no return can be expected from them for the next three years. This delay is very trying to the native, who has been accustomed to quick-growing crops, and it is, in my opinion, very doubtful whether he will have the patience to continue unremunerative cultivation for so long a period as is required to bring coffee to maturity.

The following are the current prices of palm oil and palm kernels for the years named:—

Year.	Palm Oil, per Ton.	Palm Kernel, per Ton.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1881	30 4 2	11 10 3
1882	32 19 5	12 5 11
1883	39 6 9	14 19 11
1884	34 14 1	14 5 6
1885	27 17 3	12 7 9
1886	21 13 5	10 6 3
1887	21 11 9	10 1 10
1888	19 19 7	10 1 11
1889	22 13 9	10 8 6
1890	24 15 0	12 7 5
	For 1881–85.	For 1886–90.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Average for palm oil	33 0 4	22 2 8
Average for palm kernel	13 1 10	10 13 2

Political.

38. In 1886 a mission of considerable importance was sent to the interior in the hope that several tribal wars, which were disturbing the country and injuring the trade of Lagos, might be put a stop to. The Commissioners, who were Mr. Henry Higgins, Acting Colonial Secretary, and Mr. Oliver Smith, Queen's Advocate, left the Colony on 17th of August and did not return until the 18th of November. Their efforts were to a considerable extent successful, as in consequence of their remonstrances the camps at Kiji, Oke Mese, Ife, and Modakeke were abandoned. On the other hand, they failed to persuade the Ibadans and Ilorins to retire from their camps at Ikirun and Ofa, and these people, being hostile to each other, still continue to trouble the whole country. Were it not for this, Yoruba land would be at peace, and the inhabitants of it would be able to devote themselves to those agricultural pursuits which nature seem to have intended them for.

Much has been done in the way of extending British influence to the east and west of Lagos, and it may be said that nearly 200

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miles of the main waterway is now frequently passed over by steam craft of the Colony. This has promoted a feeling of security amongst the natives, and has to a great extent put a stop to the outrages and seizures on the lagoon, which were so frequent in former years.

Friendly relationship with the peoples to the back of Lagos has been encouraged and as a proof of how far it has progressed I may mention that the Alafin of Oyo (the King of all Yoruba Land) receives a stipend from the Government. Messengers are sent to the Governor of Lagos from Abeokuta, Iseyin, Iwo, Ibadan, Ode Ondo, Ilesha, Jebu Ode, and other places, and by means of them an intercourse more or less intimate is kept up with the places named. Unfortunately the Egbas and Jebus, who have command of the roads to the interior, are not always ready to allow people to go over them, and they at times refuse to permit persons to pass either to or from Lagos. This is a great obstacle to the development of the country and sooner or later some definite arrangement providing a right of way will have to be arrived at.

Looking to the frequent endeavours in this direction which have been made in past years, it will, undoubtedly, be very difficult to bring the people to reason by negotiation, but, in my opinion, if they are once made to understand that the Government is in earnest the resistance which is now offered to the advance of civilisation will disappear.

To the westward a more settled state of affairs exists and the troubles which in former days so frequently arose with Porto Novo have ceased. This has been brought about by the agreement with France of August 1889, which defines the spheres of British and French influence, and also fixes the boundary line between Lagos and Porto Novo. Any little concession which was obtained by the French under this agreement is more than counterbalanced by the free hand which it has given us within our own limits. In Pokra we also have a substantial equivalent for Ketonu, and it must be recognised by all who know the circumstances of the case that the only better arrangement for Lagos would have been the inclusion of Porto Novo within the Colony.

In conclusion, I venture to submit that Lagos has a future of considerable importance before it. It is free from debt, has a trade of about one and a quarter millions, and collects a revenue of between seventy and seventy-five thousand a year with the lowest customs tariff known. The expenses of administration compare very favourably with those of any other Colony, and it has great undeveloped resources. With these conditions present it will indeed be strange if it does not before long become one of the most valuable of Her Majesty's African possessions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE C. DENTON,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
The Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 58.

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[For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 32.]

Governor CARTER to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Lagos,
August 16, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith six copies of the Blue Book Returns of this Colony for the year 1891, with a report thereon by the Acting Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. T CARTER,
Governor.

The Right Hon. Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
&c. &c. &c.

From Honourable ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY to Governor G. T. CARTER, C.M.G.

Colonial Secretariat, Lagos,
August 1, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward for transmission to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies six copies of the Lagos Blue Book for 1891, together with my report on the returns rendered by the various heads of Departments.

I have to express my thanks to his Honour Chief Justice Smalman Smith for his valuable advice and assistance in the preparation of certain portions of the report, and for the revision of all legal matters dealt with in the Blue Book.

In the preparation of the Blue Book I have met with most cordial assistance from the Departments, and in this office I have to note the careful and willing work of the Chief Clerk, Mr. Henry Carr.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALVAN MILLSON,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency G. T. Carter, Esq., C.M.G.,
Governor.

REPORT on the LAGOS BLUE BOOK for 1891.

DUTIES.

Under Ordinance No. 4 of 1891, entitled "An Ordinance to "increase the duties of Customs upon certain kinds of spirits and "upon tobacco," the duty on spirits (not being liqueurs, brandy, or cordials), which had, up to the 3rd March, 1891, been at the

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rate of sixpence a gallon, was, on that date, raised to eightpence, and the duty on tobacco, under the same Ordinance, was increased from twopence to twopence halfpenny a pound.

The following tables will serve to show the relative positions at the close of the year, as regards Customs dues, of the Colony and its immediate neighbours and commercial competitors, the French Protectorate of Porto Novo, and the German Colony of Togoland.

CUSTOMS TARIFF.

Lagos (English).

Articles.	Amount of Duty in		
	English Money.	German Money.	French Money.
On wines, liqueurs, brandy and Cordials of any sort, the Imperial gallon -	*s.* *d.* 1 0	Mks. Pf. 1 0	Fcs. Cts. 1 25
On spirits, not being liqueurs, brandy, or cordials, the Imperial gallon Such spirits not exceeding, if imported in wood, the strength of Sykes' Hydrometer and so in proportion of any greater strength.	0 8	0 67	0 83·75
On tobacco the pound - - -	0 2½	0 21	0 26·25
On beer and malt liquor of any sort in bottles, the dozen - - -	0 9	0 75	0 93·75
On beer and malt liquor of any sort in wood, the Imperial gallon - -	0 4½	0 37	0 46·25
On cigars, the thousand - -	5 0	5 0	6 25
On Cowries, the hundredweight -	1 0	1 0	1 25
On salt, the ton - - -	5 0	5 0	6 25
On gunpowder, the barrel - -	2 0	2 0	2 50
On guns, each - - - -	1 0	1 0	1 25
On pistols, each - - -	0 6	0 50	0 62

On all other goods of every description, not enumerated, an ad valorem duty of 4 per cent. on the value of the goods at the port from which the same shall have been imported.

Table of Exemptions.

All goods imported by the Administrator of Lagos or Governor for his private use.

All goods imported with the sanction of the Governor or Administrator of Lagos for the service of any public Department of the Colony.

Books, newspapers, and printed matter.

Copybooks, drawing books and materials, and other educational materials, and apparatus imported with the sanction of the Governor or the Administrator of Lagos for the use of any school or mission.

Mathematical, scientific and surgical instruments.

Photographic apparatus and materials.

British coins and other coins current in the Colony.

Bricks, timber, slates, metal plates or other building or roofing materials imported with the sanction of the Administrator of

Lagos, or the Governor, for any purpose of general or public improvement.

Passengers' luggage.

Packages in which goods are usually imported.

Puncheon shooks, including he iron hoops and rivets or shook required for making them up.

Telegraphic stores, instruments, machinery, plant and gear within the meaning of Ordinance No. 7 of 1891.

Porto Novo (French).

Articles.	Weights and Measures.	Amount of Duty in		In English	
		French Money.	German Money.	Weights and Measures.	Money.
		Fcs. Cts.	Mks. Pfs.		*s. d.*
Wines, Liqueurs, Brandy, Cordials of any sort	—	Free.	Free.	—	Free.
Geneva :—					
Below 40° (Gay Lussac)	per 8 litres	0 80	0 64	per gallon	0 4·36
From 40° to 57° („)	„	1 20	0 96	„	0 6·54
58° („)	„	1 20	0 96	„	0 6·54
59° („)	„	1 20	0 96	„	0 6·54
60° („)	„	1 20	0 96	„	0 6·54
Above 60° („)	„	2 0	1 60	„	0 10·91
Rum :—					
Below 40° („)	per litre.	0 4	0 3·2	„	0 1·74
From 40° to 57° („)	„	0 6	0 4·8	„	0 2·62
58° („)	„	0 6	0 4·8	„	0 2·62
59° („)	„	0 6	0 4·8	„	0 2·62
60° („)	„	0 6	0 4·8	„	0 2·62
Above 60°	„	0 10	0 8	„	0 4·36
Spirits not separately specified*	—	Free.	Free.	—	Free.
Tobacco	per kilog.	0 25	0 20	per lb.	1 0
Beer and Malt Liquors of any sort in Bottles	—	Free.	Free.	—	Free.
Beer and Malt Liquors of any sort in wood	—	Free.	Free.	—	Free.
Cigars	—	†	†	—	
Cowries		Free.	Free.	—	Free.
Salt	per 1,000 kilog.	10 0	8 0	per ton.	
Gunpowder	per 100lbs. (English)	6 25	5 0	per barre per 160lbs.	5 0
Guns	each.	1 25	1 0	each.	
Pistols	—	Free.	Free.	—	Free.
Other Articles	—	Free.	Free.	—	Free.

* Such spirits not exceeding (if imported in wood) the strength of proof by Sykes' Hydrometer and so in proportion for any greater strength.

† Not separately mentioned in the tariff, probably charged as tobacco

Togo-land (*German*).

Articles.	Amount of Duty in		
	German Money.	French Money.	English Money.
Geneva, per case to 8 litres = 2 gallons:—	Mks. Pfs.	Fcs. Cts.	*s. d.*
below 40° - - - -	0 64	0 80	0 $7\frac{3}{4}$
from 40° to 60° - - -	0 96	1 20	0 $11\frac{1}{2}$
above 60° - - - -	1 60	2 0	1 $7\frac{1}{4}$
Rum, per litre :—			
Below 40° - - - -	0 $3\frac{2}{10}$	0 4	0 0·384
From 40° to 60° - - -	0 $4\frac{8}{10}$	0 6	0 0·576
Above 60° - - - -	0 8	0 10	0 1
Tobacco, per kilog - - -	0 20	0 25	0 2·4
Gunpowder, per 100 lbs. - -	5 0	6 25	0 5
Guns, each - - - -	1 0	1 25	1 0
Salt, per 1,000 kilos - - -	8 0	10 0	8 0

It may be remarked in this connection that Lagos, in common with the other British Colonies in West Africa, calculates its imports and exports on the base of their actual value at the ports of shipment, and charges duty only on the invoice value, without calculating packing materials, cases, freight, or insurance.

It is proposed that, from the beginning of 1893, a juster valuation should be arrived at, for the purpose of estimating the trade of the Colony by the adoption of a return in the following form :—

(1.) Invoice value - - -
(2.) Freight - - - -
(3.) Insurance - - -
(4.) Value of packages - -

The amount of duty on such shipments will, however, be calculated, as before, on the invoice prices.

In order to avoid undue interference with the transit trade of the Colony to Porto Novo, by inland navigation or carriage, all duties that may have been paid on spirits and tobacco in excess of one penny farthing the gallon, and one farthing the pound, are refunded to the transit importers, while all spirits and tobacco warehoused for security of duties or transhipped for exportation, can be sent to Porto Novo or beyond the seas upon payment respectively of one penny farthing the gallon, and a farthing the pound.

The above very moderate charges must be considered to be a reasonable return for the advantages of the Port of Lagos, offering, as it does, the only safe harbour in the neighbourhood, and commanding the entrance to the chain of littoral lagoons and water-ways, which afford safe and rapid means of transport along upwards of 250 miles of surf bound coast.

Licences.

The following details as regards licences, stamps, fees and dues may be of value as showing the obligations of residents in the Colony under those headings.

2. LICENCES.

a. Marriage Licences.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Ordinance No. 14 of 1884 ("The Marriage Ordinance, 1884," *see* s. 45, and *cf.* s. 46) requires that for every special marriage licence there be paid the sum of - - - - - -	5	5	0

b. Auctioneer's Licences.

Under Ordinance No. 2 of 1878 ("The Sales by Auction Ordinance, 1878") the following duties are payable upon licences to sell by auction, viz.:—

Upon an auctioneer's licence without privilege of agents for a year - - -	4	0	0
Upon an auctioneer's licence without privilege of agents for half a year - - -	14	10	0
Upon an auctioneer's licence with privilege of agents for a year - - - -	26	10	0
Upon an auctioneer's licence with privilege of agents for half a year - - -	15	12	0
Upon an auctioneer's agent's licence for a year -	2	0	0
Upon an auctioneer's agent's licence for half a year	1	4	0

c. Spirit Licences.

Ordinance No. 7 of 1875 ("The Spirit Licence Ordinance, 1875") makes the following duties payable upon licences to sell spirits in places where the Ordinance applies:—

Upon a wholesale licence for a year - -	25	0	0
„ „ for half a year -	15	0	0
„ retail licence for a store in the Island of Lagos for a year - - -	25	0	0
„ a retail licence for a store in the Island of Lagos for half a year - - -	15	0	0
„ retail licence for a store not in the Island of Lagos for a year - - - -	5	0	0
„ retail licence for a store in the Island of Lagos for half a year - - -	2	10	0

d. Boat and Canoe Licences.

Ordinance No. 3 of 1866 ("An Ordinance for Licensing boats and canoes in the Settlement of Lagos") charges every boat and canoe licence (annual) with a duty of - - - -	0	10	0

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3. STAMPS.

Ordinance No. 4 of 1888 ("The Stamp Ordinance, 1888"), s. 4, charges the duties specified in the schedule to that Ordinance upon the instruments specified in that schedule.

The schedule specifies the following instruments:—

Admission.	£	s.	d.
As a barrister or solicitor under s. 71 of the Supreme Court Ordinance, 1876	10	0	0
As a solicitor under s. 73 of the Supreme Court Ordinance, 1876	10	0	0
To act as barrister, solicitor or proctor under s. 74 of the Supreme Court Ordinance, 1876; for each licence	1	0	0
As notary public	5	0	0

Agreement.

Agreement, or memorandum of agreement, under hand only, and not otherwise specifically charged with any duty, whether the same be only evidence of a contract or obligatory upon the parties from its being a written instrument	0	0	6

Exemptions.

1. Agreement or memorandum the matter whereof is not of the value of 5*l.*
2. Agreement or memorandum for the hire of any seaman, canoeman, artisan, labourer, artificer or menial servant.
3. Agreement, letter or memorandum made for or relating to the sale of any goods, wares, or merchandise.

And see Lease.

Appointment.

Appointment of a new trustee, or appointment, in execution of a power, of any property, or of any use, share or interest in any property, by any instrument not being a will	0	10	0

Award.

1. Where the amount or value of the matter in dispute does not exceed 100*l.*, for every 10*l.* or fractional part of 10*l.* thereof	0	0	6
2. Where the amount or value exceeds 100*l.*	0	10	0

Bill of Exchange (*See s.* 31).	£	*s.*	*d.*
Payable on demand - - - - - -	0	0	1
Of any other kind whatsoever, and promissory note of any kind whatsoever, drawn in or out of the Colony and payable or negotiated within the Colony:—			
For any sum exceeding 1*l.* and not exceeding 10*l.*	0	0	1
„ „ 10*l.* „ 25*l.*	0	0	3
„ „ 25*l.* „ 50*l.*	0	0	6
„ „ 50*l.* „ 75*l.*	0	0	9
„ „ 75*l.* „ 100*l.*	0	1	0
And for every additional 25*l.* or part thereof -	0	0	3

Exemptions.

Trade cheques and rest or good notes.

Bill of lading.

Bill of lading of or for any goods, merchandise or effects - - - - - -	0	0	6

Exemption.

The master's copy.

Charter-party.

Charter-party, or any agreement for or relating to the freight or conveyance of any goods or effects on board a ship - - - -	0	0	6

Conveyance.

Conveyance or transfer on sale of any property. For every 25*l.* and also for every fractional part of 25*l.*, of the amount or value of the consideration for the sale (*see* s. 35) - - - - -	0	2	6
Conveyance or transfer of any property by way of security. *See* Mortgage.			
Conveyance or transfer of any kind not herein-before described - - - - - -	0	10	0

Copy.

Copy or extract (attested or in any manner authenticated) of or from,

1. An instrument chargeable with any duty;
2. An original will, testament or codicil;
3. The probate or probate copy of a will or codicil;
4. Any letters of administration.

In the case of any instrument chargeable with any duty not amounting to 1*s.*, the same duty as such instrument. In any other case - - - -	0	1	0

	£	s.	d.
Copy or extract (certified) of or from any register of births, baptisms, marriages, deaths or burials -	0	0	1

Declaration of Trust.

Declaration of any use or trust of or concerning any property by any writing (not being a deed or will or any instrument chargeable with *ad valorem* duty as a settlement) - - - - -	0	10	0

Deed.

Deed of any kind whatsoever not described in this schedule - - - - - -	0	10	0

Duplicate.

Duplicate or counterpart of any instrument chargeable with duty:—			
Where such duty does not amount to 5*s.*, the same duty as the original instrument;			
In any other case - - - - -	0	5	0

Lease (or Agreement for a Lease or Letting).

1. For any definite term less than a year:—			
(*a.*) Where the rent for such term does not exceed 25*l.* - - - - - -	0	0	6
(*b.*) Where the rent for such term exceeds 25*l* -	0	2	6
2. For any other definite term, or for any indefinite term:—			
For each 25*l.* and also for every fractional part of 25*l.* of the rent.			
If the term is definite and does not exceed 7 years	0	2	6
If the term is definite and does not exceed 21 years	0	5	0
If the term exceeds 21 years or is indefinite -	0	10	0
3. Of any other kind whatsoever not herein-before described - - - - - -	0	10	0
And *See* ss. 38, 39 and 40.			

Mortgage, Bond, Debenture or Covenant.

1. Being the only or principal security for the payment or repayment of money, for every 100*l.*, and also for any fractional part of 100*l.*, of the amount secured -	0	2	6
2. Being a collateral, or auxiliary, or additional or substituted security, or by way of farther assurance, for the above-mentioned purpose, where the principal			

	£	s	d.
or primary security is duly stamped, for every 100*l.*, and also for any fractional part of 100*l.*, of the amount secured - - - - - -	0	0	6
3. Transfer or assignment of any mortgage, bond, debenture or covenant, or of anything secured by any such instrument, for every 100*l.*, and also for any fractional part of 100*l.*, of the amount transferred, assigned or disposed of - - - - -	0	0	6
And also, where any further money is added to the money already secured, the same duty as upon a principal security for such further money.			
4. Reconveyance, release, discharge or surrender of any such security as aforesaid, or of the benefit thereof, or of the money thereby secured, for every 100*l.*, and also for any fractional part of 100*l.*, of the total amount or value of the money at any time secured -	0	0	6

Exemptions.

1. Bond given by a public officer for the due execution of his duty.
2. Bond on which a fee is chargeable under the provisions of the Supreme Court Ordinance, 1876.
3. Bond given in pursuance of any Ordinance upon or with relation to the receiving or obtaining, or for entitling any person to receive or obtain, any drawback or any duty or duties, or part of any duty or duties, of customs, for or in respect of any goods, wares or merchandise exported or shipped to be exported from the Colony, or upon or with relation to the obtaining of any certificate for entitling any person to receive or obtain any such drawback as aforesaid.

Notarial Act.

Notarial act of any kind whatsoever - - -	0	1	0

Power of Attorney.

Power of attorney or other instrument in the nature thereof - - - - - -	0	10	0

Exemption.

Appointment of a proxy to vote at any meeting.

Receipt.

Receipt given for or upon the payment of money amounting to 2*l.* or upwards - - -	0	0	1

Exemptions.

1. Receipt given for or upon the payment of any duties or taxes or of money to or for the use of the Colonial Government.
2. The duplicate of any receipt required by the regulations of the Treasury Department to be given in duplicate, the original receipt being duly stamped.
3. Receipt given by any person, or his representatives for or on account of any salary, wages, pay or pension due from the Colonial Government.
4. Receipt endorsed or otherwise written upon or contained in any instrument liable to stamp duty and duly stamped, acknowledging the receipt of the consideration-money therein expressed, or the receipt of any principal money, interest or annuity thereby secured or therein mentioned.
5. Receipt given for drawback or bounty upon the exportation of any goods or merchandise from the Colony.
6. Receipt given for the return of any duties of customs upon certificates of over-entry.

General Exemptions from all Stamp Duties.

1. Transfers of shares in the Government or Parliamentary stocks or funds of Great Britain.
2. Instruments for the sale, transfer or other disposition either absolutely, or by way of mortgage, or otherwise, of any ship or vessel, or any part, interest, share or property of or in any ship or vessel.
3. All instruments on which the duty would be payable by any Government Department.

II. FEES AND DUES.

1. SUPREME COURT.

Court fees are regulated by an order of the 26th of September 1889, which is as follows:—

In Civil Matters.

Commencement of Suits.

Where the value of the property, claim or demand:—

	On Summons.			On Hearing.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
does not exceed 10*l.* - -	0	2	6	0	2	6
exceeds 10*l.* and does not exceed 25*l.* -	0	5	0	0	5	0
„ 25*l.* „ 50*l.* -	0	5	0	0	10	0
„ 50*l.* „ 100*l.* -	0	10	0	0	15	0
„ 100*l.* „ 200*l.* -	1	0	0	1	10	0

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
exceeds 200*l.* and does not exceed 300*l.* -	1	10	0	2	5	0
„ 300*l.* „ 400*l.* -	2	0	0	3	0	0
„ 400*l.* „ 500*l.* -	2	10	0	3	15	0
„ 500*l.* „ 600*l.* -	3	0	0	4	10	0
„ 600*l.* „ 700*l.* -	3	10	0	5	5	0
„ 700*l.* „ 800*l.* -	4	0	0	6	0	0
„ 800*l.* „ 900*l.* -	4	10	0	6	15	0
„ 900*l.* „ 1,000*l.* -	5	0	0	7	10	0
is 1,000*l.* or upwards - - -	5	10	0	10	0	0

Note.—In all cases the value of the property involved and the amount of damages claimed must be stated in the writ of summons.

The value of any land shall not be taken as less than 50*l.* except by the direction of the Court.

On a petition or claim for judicial relief or assistance, but not the recovery of money or property - -	1	10	0
On filing every counter-claim the hearing fee on the amount thereof.			
Where an injunction is claimed in addition to damages, an extra hearing fee (in addition to that chargeable under the above scale) of - - - -	0	15	0
On filing any petition or claim to be heard before the Court, not otherwise provided for (to include hearing fee) - - - - - -	0	10	0
On summons for the administration of the property of a deceased person, to include hearing - -	0	10	0
On drawing up administration decree (unless a reference is directed under Order XXXVIII.) - -	0	10	0
On drawing up order on further consideration, where the property administered exceeds 200*l.* - -	1	0	0

Note.—If, at or before the commencement of the hearing, the whole cause of action is admitted, half the hearing fee shall be returned.

Interlocutory.

On setting down a case for hearing after being struck out or adjourned through the default of any party, one half of the hearing fee, but in no case less than 2*s.* 6*d.*, to be paid by, or recovered from, the party in default.

On filing every notice of motion (not specially charged)	0	2	6
On filing every affidavit (including all exhibits thereto) or any other document not specially charged - -	0	1	0
On every order to show cause - - - -	0	2	6
On every other order drawn up by direction of the Court, not being a non-suit or judgment - -	0	5	0

	£	s.	d.
On every subpœna - - - - -	0	1	0
On application for warrant to arrest absconding defendant or for interim attachment of property - -	0	5	0
On filing bond or security - - - -	0	10	0
On warrant for arrest of absconding defendant -	0	5	0
On warrant of attachment against property where the value is less than 50*l.* - - - -	0	5	0
On warrant of attachment against property where the value is 50*l.* or upwards - - - -	0	10	0
On application for warrant for detention of a ship -	1	0	0
On warrant for detention of a ship - - -	2	0	0
On application for writ of foreign attachment - -	0	10	0
On writ of foreign attachment - - -	2	0	0
Where an inquiry is directed and is ordered to be made by an officer of the Court, on each sitting or adjourned sitting (to include any report) - -	0	10	0
Where an account is directed to be taken by an officer of the court, on every 50*l.* or part thereof of the amount found to have been received without deducting any payment (to include any report) - -	0	2	0

Review and Special Case.

On motion for review of judgment, if amount involved is under 50*l.* - - - - -	0	5	0
On motion for review of judgment in every other case -	0	10	0
On settling every special case, from each party -	0	5	0
On setting same down for hearing - - -	1	0	0
On every new trial an additional hearing fee shall be taken.			

Proceedings to enforce Decrees and Orders.

On every judgment debtor summons, to include hearing	0	2	6
On every warrant of arrest and commitment -	0	2	0
On every warrant of execution or sequestration against property for less than 50*l.* - - - -	0	5	0
On every warrant of execution for 50*l.* and upwards -	0	10	0
On every warrant of arrest and imprisonment -	0	5	0
On every summons for the release of property from attachment - - - - - -	0	2	6

Appeals.

	From D. C.			From Judge.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
On motion for leave to appeal - -	0	5	0	1	0	0
On every bond - - - -	0	2	6	0	10	0

	From D. C. £	s.	d.	From Judge. £	s.	d.
On order for leave to appeal - -	0	5	0	1	0	0
On making up appeal record, per folio of 72 words of the record - - -	0	0	4	0	0	4
On drawing appeal case, per folio - -	0	1	0	0	1	0
On fair copies thereof, per folio - -	0	0	4	0	0	4
Costs of transmission, and other charges, as the Court directs.						
On setting down appeal for hearing, the same fees as would be payable for summons and hearing fee in an original action, for the amount or subject-matter in dispute on appeal.						

Probate and Administration.

On filing application for probate or administration -	0	5	0
On filing oath of executor or administrator - -	0	5	0
On taking justification of sureties, for each surety -	0	2	6
On filing administration bond - - -	0	10	0
On probate or letters of administration, where the value of the property in respect of which the grant is made does not exceed 25*l.* - - - -			
Exceeds 25*l.*, and does not exceed 50*l.* - -	1	0	0
Exceeds 50*l.*, for each 50*l.* or fractional part thereof -	1	0	0
On inventory of property, when directed to be taken by an officer of the Court, for the first three hours or part thereof - - - - -	0	6	0
On inventory of property, for every subsequent hour or part thereof - - - - -	0	2	0
On application for leave to search index to grants -	0	1	0
On application for leave to inspect grants - -	0	2	6
On deposit of original will for safe custody - -	0	6	0

Note.—Under s. 41 of the Marriage Ordinance, 1884, under certain circumstances both real and personal property must be taken into account in assessing the duty payable on a grant of administration.

Divorce.

On every citation - - - - -	0	5	0
On filing petition - - - - -	0	5	0
On filing answer or further pleading - - -	0	5	0
On setting down case for hearing - - -	0	15	0

Note.—All other fees, sanctioned by the Court and not specially provided for in this scale shall be charged in conformity with the law and practice for the time being in force in England.

Service.

	£	s.	d.
Service of a summons or any document under any branch of the civil jurisdiction - - - -	0	1	0
Every personal arrest - - - -	0	2	6
Execution of any writ against property - -	0	2	6
In cases of difficulty, or where the property is of large amount, the Court may authorise a larger fee not exceeding - - - - - -	1	0	0
Every man in possession when necessary for the first three days each - - - - -	0	2	0
For every subsequent day - - - -	0	1	6
Every sale under execution, including the receipt of the purchase money and delivery of the property, where the property sold does not produce more than 300*l.*, 5 per cent.; 400*l.*, 4 per cent.; 500*l.*, 3 per cent.; and where it exceeds 500*l.*, 2½ per cent.			
When a constable or messenger executes any duty under this head at a greater distance than one mile and a half (English) from the Court, he is entitled, in addition to the specified fees, to receive for every further complete mile, less than five miles (one way)	0	0	6
If beyond five miles, at the rate of 2*s.* 6*d.* a day for the time necessarily occupied in travelling.			
Where the Sheriff or Registrar executes any duty in person, by the direction of the Court, he is entitled, in lieu of mileage, to his actual travelling expenses.			
For any duty not herein provided for the officer may receive such fee as the Court may allow.			
Note.—Where an officer serves more than one writ upon the same route one mileage rate only is to be charged and apportioned upon the writs.			
The fees under the head of "Service" shall be received by the Registrar for the use of the officers charged with the performance of the particular services.			

Officers of Court.

For taking statement of party when directed by the Court, according to circumstances, as the Court may allow - - - - - - -	2*s.* to 10*s.*		
For drawing bill of costs when directed by the Court, per folio of 72 words - - - -	0	0	6
Taxing costs when directed by the Court, where the amount of the bill delivered does not exceed 5*l.* -	0	2	0
And for every additional 5*l.* or fractional part thereof -	0	2	0
Making copy of any document when authorised by the Court, per folio of 72 words - - -	0	0	4

Note.—The fees under the head of "Officers of Court" shall be received by the Registrar for use of the officers charged with the performance of the particular services. Provided that no fee exceeding 5*l.* shall be paid to any officer for the taxation of a bill of costs, but the excess, if any, shall be paid into the Treasury.

Miscellaneous.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Commission to take evidence out of the jurisdiction -	1	0	0
do. within the jurisdiction -	0	5	0
For taking the acknowledgment of a married woman -	1	0	0
On swearing every affidavit in a proceeding in court for each deponent - - - - -	0	1	0
On swearing every affidavit other than those required by s. 19 of Ordinance No. 2 of 1878 not in a proceeding in Court for each deponent - -	0	2	0
On making a declaration, except where required by the regulations of a Government Department - -	0	1	0
On marking every exhibit or document annexed to any affidavit or declaration - - -	0	0	6
On attesting the execution or signature by any party of any deed or instrument (other than agreements under the "Master and Servant Ordinance, 1877") not expressly provided for - - - -	0	1	0
On affixing the seal of the Court to any document not in a proceeding - - - - -	0	5	0
For certifying a copy of any document as an office copy, for every folio of 72 words or part thereof - -	0	0	2
On granting certificate of purchase of land sold in execution of decree - - - -	0	5	0
On appointment as commissioner to administer oaths &c. - - - - - -	1	1	0

In Criminal Matters.

On every summons (to include hearing fee) - -	0	4	0
On every warrant to arrest (unless specially directed by the Court to be issued) - - - -	0	2	0
On each recognizance (except to prosecute or give evidence) - - - - - -	0	2	0
Warrant to levy on property - - - -	0	2	0

Note.—The Court may direct repayment, if it sees fit, of any fees paid in a criminal proceeding.

Inquests.

Fees to Medical Practitioners.

On examination of the body, reporting thereon and giving evidence at the inquest - - -	1	1	0

	£	s.	d.
On every dissection, if necessary, in addition - -	1	1	0
On attending inquest to give evidence, each day after the first - - - - -	1	1	0

Note.—These fees, together with necessary travelling expenses (if any), shall be paid out of the Colonial Treasury to persons entitled thereto under the 193rd section of the Criminal Procedure Ordinance; but by Ordinance No. 7, of 1879 none of the above fees are payable to Government Officers for services rendered at any inquest on any prisoner or person confined in a Lunatic Asylum, except that where a post-mortem examination is made by direction of the Coroner there shall be payable a fee of one guinea.

In all cases the Coroner shall certify (in addition to the performance of the service) whether the deceased was, or was not, at the time of his death a prisoner or confined in a Lunatic Asylum. For further directions, *see* Consolidated Regulations, *sub tit.* "Coroner."

Allowances to Witnesses.

	per diem.		
Professional men - - - - -	1	1	0
Gentlemen, merchants, auctioneers, - - -	0	10	6
Native Chiefs, and captains - from 5*s* to	0	10	6
Master tradesmen, pilots, clerks - - -	0	5	0
Artizans and journeymen - - - -	0	2	0
Servants, labourers, canoemen and the like - -	0	1	0
Women, according to station - from 1*s* to	0	5	0

Note.—The travelling expenses of witnesses shall be allowed according to the sums reasonably and actually paid.

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2. POST OFFICE.

a. Letters, Newspapers, &c.

Inland.

For a letter, for every ½ oz. or fraction thereof -	0	0	1
For a newspaper (not exceeding 4 oz.) - -	0	0	1
For newspapers in parcel, a book packet, patterns, or commercial papers, for every 4 oz. or fraction thereof	0	0	1

Foreign.

Countries.	A Letter. For every ½oz. or fraction thereof.	A Post Card.	A Newspaper not exceeding 4oz.	Other Articles. Printed Papers and Books. For every 2oz. or fraction thereof.	Other Articles. Commercial Papers.	Other Articles. Pattern. For every 2oz. or fraction thereof.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*		*s. d.*
For all countries of the Postal Union except those mentioned below -	0 4	0 1½	0 1	0 1	The same as printed papers except that the lowest charge is 2½*d.*	0 1
Aden - -						
Ceylon - -						
Hong Kong -						
India - -						
Japan - -						
Java - -	0 5	0 2	0 1½	0 1½		0 2
Labuan - -						
Philippine Islands						
Penang - -						
Singapore -						
United Kingdom -	0 2½	0 1½	0 1	0 1		0 1

The registration fee on all letters, books or parcels (except to certain foreign countries) is 2*d.*

b. Money Orders.

Rate of commission on money orders :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
For every 10*s.* or portion of 10*s.* -	0	0	2

c. Parcel Post.

Postage on parcels addressed to the United Kingdom, per lb. or portion of a lb. - - - -	0	0	9
Postage on parcels addressed to the Gold Coast, Sierra Leone or the Gambia, per lb. or portion of a lb. -	0	0	6

Dimensions and Weights.

Greatest length - - -	3 feet 6 inches.
,, and girth combined -	6 feet.
,, weight - - -	11 lbs.

d. Sorting Boxes.

	£	s.	d.
For each private sorting box in the Post Office, per annum	1	1	0

Authorities; various.

3. CUSTOMS OFFICERS.

The following fees are payable under s. 14 of the Customs Ordinance, 1876 [No. 10 of 1876; cf. No. 4 of 1886, No. 15 of 1889, and No. 2 of 1890], by importers and exporters of goods in respect of the services of Customs officers at extra hours :—

	Per day.			Per hour.		
Where the officer is :	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
A District Commissioner acting as collector of customs	1	5	0	0	5	0
A chief clerk	0	15	0	0	3	0
A junior „	0	10	0	0	2	0
A warehouse keeper or examining officer	0	15	0	0	3	0
An assistant examining officer	0	10	0	0	2	0
An outdoor officer taking an account of the landing or shipment of goods	0	5	0	0	1	0

4. SHIPPING.

Ordinance No. 3 of 1874 ("An ordinance to repeal the "Customs Fees Ordinance, No. 3, of the 21st day of "March, 1873, and to make other provision relative "thereto") empowers,

a. The chief officer of Customs, as Registrar of Shipping, to demand the following fees :—

	£	s.	d.
For registering a ship and granting a certificate of registry	0	5	0
For each form of bill of sale or mortgage issued	0	1	0
„ each form of declaration issued	0	0	6
„ endorsing the names of owners upon certificate of registry on change of owners	0	2	0
For endorsing the names of owners upon certificate of registry on change of masters	0	2	0
For each entry in the registry book relating to transfer by bill of sale	0	1	0
For each entry in the registry book relating to mortgage	0	2	0
For transmitting particulars on application to transfer registry to another port	0	2	6
For granting a certificate of mortgage or sale	0	5	0
„ sales or mortgages made before registrar under certificates of sale or mortgage, each	0	2	6

	£	s.	d.
For each certified copy of documents under 107th section Merchant Shipping Act, 1854	0	1	0
For inspection of the registry book -	0	1	0

b. The chief officer of Customs, as shipping master to receive the following fees:—

1. Engagement or discharge of crews:—			
Ships under 60 tons - - -	0	4	0
,, between 60 and 100 tons - -	0	7	0
,, between 100 and 200 tons - -	0	15	0
and 5s. additional for every 100 tons.			
2. Engagement or discharge of seamen separately - - - - -	0	2	0
3. Copy of seamen's certificate of discharge -	0	1	0
4. Indentures of apprentices - - -	0	5	0
5. Certificate of deposit of any document -	0	2	0
6. Sanction in writing to discharge of any seaman or apprentice - - - -	0	5	0
7. Rendering account of wages, &c. of seaman deceased or left behind - -	0	2	0
8. Copy of certificate of desertion - -	0	2	0
9. Examination of provisions or water - -	0	10	6
10. Attesting will of a seaman - - -	0	2	0

c. The superintendent of the survey and admeasurement of vessels to receive, from the owner, master or commander of any ship or vessel admeasured by him:—

For each measured transverse section -	0	10	6
For each certificate of survey, in addition to the above - - - - -	1	1	0
For each certificate of survey or of identity where measurement of tonnage is not required - - - - -	1	1	0

5. Hospitals and Dispensaries.

Under section 2 of Ordinance No. 1 of 1881, "The Lagos Hospital Ordinance, 1881," where a Kru labourer or a domestic servant is admitted into the Colonial Hospital his employer has to pay—

For the first five days that the labourer or servant is in hospital - - -	0	4	2	a day
For each subsequent day - - -	0	1	3	

And under section 48 of Ordinance No. 3 of 1878 "The Lagos Pilotage and Harbour Ordinance, 1878," (cf. ss. 24, 49) hospital dues are payable, in respect of persons removed to the

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	£	s.	d.	
Colonial Hospital from on board ship, by the master or owner, or the charterer or his agent, other consignee or his agent, at the following rates:—				
Where the patient is the master - -	0	10	0	a day
„ „ a mate - -	0	7	6	„
„ „ an ordinary seaman -	0	4	2	„
and „ „ a Kruman, 4*s.* 2*d.* for the first five days in hospital and 1*s.* 3*d.* for every subsequent day.				
Section 46 of the same Ordinance enacts that the fee for the supervision of medicines and medical attendance on board ship shall be 30*s.* for each person on board for the period of the ship's stay in harbour, if less than four months; but if that time is exceeded, the like sum shall again become payable; if the ship remains in the harbour for less than 21 days one half of the said sum only shall be paid.				
These fees shall not be chargeable in the case of:—				
Ships carrying a certificated surgeon;				
Steamships navigating within the harbour only, or visiting the harbour casually, or for repairs;				
Coasting ships trading within the settlement of Lagos only and not remaining in the harbour for more than seven consecutive days.				
The following fees and charges are payable, under the Hospital Rules, 1889, by "paying patients":—				
Government Officers, including native clerks in the Government service, whose salaries exceed 50*l.* a year, for every full 50*l.* of annual salary - - -	0	0	9	a day
Professional men, merchants or their principal agents and auctioneers - -	0	7	6	„
European and American clerks - -	0	6	0	„
Native chiefs - - - -	0	3	0	„
Master tradesmen - - - -	0	1	6	„
Native clerks not being in the public service - - - - -	0	1	0	„
Artizans, journeymen, servants out of employment, labourers and canoemen -	Free.			
Women according to their station;				
Children under 14 years of age, half the foregoing rates, according to the station of their parents or guardians.				

	£	s.	d.
Under the "Ereko Dispensary Rules, 1889," persons who are not entitled to gratuitous treatment at the Dispensary, but who are unable to pay for medical treatment at their house, are entitled to receive medical advice and treatment at the dispensary upon payment of -	0	1	0

6. PUBLIC POUNDS.

Under rules passed on the 7th of August 1888, under s. 30 of Ordinance No. 10 of 1878, ("The Towns Police and Public Health Ordinance, 1878") the following penalties are payable to the Treasurer, viz. :—

For every head of cattle - - -	0	2	0	
„ „ „ swine - - -	0	1	0	
And for keep of same the following charges :—				
For every head of cattle - - -	0	1	0	a day
„ „ „ swine - - -	0	0	6	„

7. REGISTRATION.

a. Instruments affecting Land.

	£	s.	d.
The following fees are receivable, under section 24 of Ordinance No. 8 of 1883 ("The Registration Ordinance, 1883") by the Registrar of Instruments affecting land :—			
For every acknowledgment or proof of an instrument - - - - - -	0	2	6
For the registration and recording of every instrument other than a memorial, for every folio of 72 words - - - -	0	0	9
For verifying every memorial and recording the same - - - - - -	0	5	0
For depositing every instrument - - -	0	2	6
„ taking out the same - - - -	0	2	6
„ every search in the records or memorials, for every half hour - - - -	0	2	6
For every additional half hour - - -	0	2	6
„ an attested copy of or extract from any recorded instrument or memorial, for every folio of 72 words - - - - -	0	1	0
For comparing, if required, any instrument with the register thereof, for every 72 words - -	0	0	6
For every certificate or extract - - -	0	2	6
„ every search in the general for every half hour - - - - -	0	2	6

b. Marriages.

	£	s.	d.
And under section 45 of the above mentioned No. 14 of 1884, the following fees are payable to Registrars of Marriages :—			
For filing and entering notice - - -	0	5	0
„ issuing certificate or certified copy of certificate	0	2	6
„ certifying an extract - - - -	0	2	6
On marriage in registry - - - -	0	5	0

c. Births.

For registering a birth when the child is more than three, but not more than 12 months old (to be paid by the informant) - - - -	0	2	6
For registering a birth when the child is more than 12 months old (to be paid by the informant) - -	0	5	0
For entering the baptismal or other name of a child, upon a certificate being produced, after registration of birth (to be paid by the person procuring the name to be entered) - - - -	0	1	0
For correcting an error of fact in a register (to be paid by the person requiring the error to be corrected) -	0	2	6
For each search of the index to and inspection of an entry in a register - - - - -	0	1	0
For each certified copy of any entry in a register -	0	2	6

III. RENTS.

1. Wharfage.

The following tolls and dues are payable, under Ordinance No. 7 of 1889 ("The Wharfage Ordinance 1889") upon movables landed or shipped at a Custom-house pier :—

	£	s.	d.
Beer, per barrel or case - - - -	0	0	3
Beniseed, per ton - - - -	0	1	6
Brandy, per case of one dozen - - -	0	0	1
Brass rods, per case - - - -	0	0	2
Bricks, per thousand - - - -	0	2	6
Cordage, per coil - - - -	0	0	1½
Cotton (raw), per bale - - - -	0	0	3
Cowries, per ton - - - - -	0	1	6
Earthenware, per crate or cask - - -	0	0	8
Felt, per roll - - - - -	0	0	4
Flints, per keg - - - - -	0	0	2
Geneva, per case of one dozen - - -	0	0	1
Ground-nuts, per ton - - - -	0	1	6
Guns or pistols, per case - - -	0	0	6
Horses, each - - - - -	0	5	0

	£	s.	d.
Iron chains, „ pots, „ bars, „ bolts, „ rods, „ sheets, } per ton - - - -	0	2	6
Ivory, per ton - - - - -	0	1	6
Kernels, per ton - - - -	0	1	6
Kola nuts, per basket - - - -	0	0	6
Lumber, per 1,000 feet - - -	0	2	0
Machinery, per ton - - - -	0	2	6
Matchets, per case - - - -	0	0	3
Paint, per stone (14 lbs.) - - -	0	0	0¼
Palm, black or other oil, per drum - -	0	1	0
„ „ „ per puncheon or barrel -	0	0	6
Pipes, per case - - - - -	0	0	1
Rum, per puncheon or pipe - - -	0	0	6
„ per barrel or ½ pipe - - - -	0	0	4
„ per case of one dozen or demijohn -	0	0	1
Salt, per ton - - - - -	0	1	6
Shooks, per bundle - - - -	0	0	2
Slates, per 1,000 - - - -	0	0	6
Spirits not otherwise spe ified, per case of 1 doz.-	0	0	1
Sugar, per hogshead - - - -	0	2	0
„ per barrel - - - -	0	0	3
„ per case or tin not exceeding 40 lbs. -	0	0	1
Tiles per thousand - - - -	0	2	6
Tobacco, per hogshead - - - -	0	1	6
„ per puncheon - - - -	0	0	6
„ per roll - - - -	0	0	1
Wines, per puncheon, pipe, or hogshead -	0	0	6
„ per ¼ cask - - - -	0	0	4
„ per case of 1 dozen - - -	0	0	1
Zinc, per roll of 200 feet - - -	0	0	4
„ „ 100 feet - - -	0	0	2

All movables not above specified, or, if above specified, not imported so as to be chargeable under the above tariff, are charged as follows:—

For every bale or truss not exceeding 250 lbs. -	0	0	4
„ „ „ exceeding 250 lbs. -	0	0	6
„ puncheon, pipe or hogshead - -	0	0	4
„ barrel - - - - -	0	0	3
„ case - - - - -	0	0	4
Movables not exceeding 112 lbs. in weight -	0	0	2

In charging the tolls and dues upon movables chargeable by weight or measure a proportion of the respective tolls and dues is charged for any greater or less weight or measure than is specified above.

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Exemptions.

Mails;	Postal parcels;
Postal letters;	Personal luggage.

2. CUSTOMS WAREHOUSES.

Section 1 of No. 8 of 1873 ("An Ordinance to regulate "the sums payable as rent for goods and merchandise "stored in the Government warehouses") charges goods stored in Government warehouses (after the first week) with rent at the following rates:—

	Rate per Week or portion of a Week.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Beer, per barrel or case	0	0	3
Brandy, per case of one dozen	0	0	1
Brass rods, per case	0	0	1
Cordage, per coil	0	0	2
Cowries, per cwt.	0	0	1
Earthenware, per crate or cask	0	0	6
Felt, per roll	0	0	1
Flints, per keg	0	0	1
Geneva, per case of one dozen	0	0	1
Guns or pistols, per case	0	0	6
Iron chains, „ pots, „ bars, „ bolts, „ rods, „ sheets, per ton	0	1	0
Kola nuts, per basket	0	0	6
Machinery, per ton	0	1	0
Matchets, per case	0	0	1
Pipes, per case	0	0	1
Rum, per puncheon or pipe	0	0	6
„ barrel or half pipe	0	0	3
„ case of one dozen	0	0	1
Salt per ton	0	1	0
Shooks, each	0	0	3
Spirits not otherwise specified, per case of 1 doz.	0	0	1
Sugar, per hogshead	0	0	6
„ barrel	0	0	3
„ case or tin not exceeding 40 lbs.	0	0	1
Tobacco, per hogshead	0	1	0
„ puncheon	0	0	6
„ roll	0	0	1

	Rate per Week or portion of a Week. £	s.	d.
Wines, per puncheon, pipe or hogshead -	0	0	6
„ ¼ cask - - - - -	0	0	2
„ case of one dozen - -	0	0	1
Zinc, per roll of 200 feet - - - -	0	0	4
„ 100 feet - - - -	0	0	2
Goods not enumerated above, or, if above enumerated, not imported in such form as to be chargeable under the above tariff, are charged by the same section as follows:—			
For every bale or truss not exceeding 250 lbs. -	0	0	6
„ „ exceeding 250 lbs. -	0	0	8
„ puncheon, pipe or hogshead - -	0	0	6
„ barrel - - - - - -	0	0	3
„ case - - - - - -	0	0	6
Small packages not exceeding one cwt. each and not being personal luggage - - - -	0	0	1

3. GUNPOWDER MAGAZINE

For every quarter or portion of a quarter of a year that any barrel of gunpowder of 100 lbs. nett weight remains stored in a Government magazine Ordinance No. 6 of 1885 ("The Government Gunpowder Magazines Ordinance, 1885") makes chargeable the sum of - - - - - -	0	0	9

4. MARKETS.

a. Meat Market at Ereko.

Under rules made, under sections 41 and 67 of Ordinance No. 10 of 1878 ("The Towns Police and Public Health Ordinance, 1878") on the 2nd of December 1882, there is payable:—			
For each stall, table or place in the market, per month - - - - - -	0	5	0

b. Marina Fish and Meat Market.

Under rules made, under the same sections of the same Ordinance, on the 30th of November 1889:—			
For each stall, table, place or stand for the sale of fish per month - - - - -	0	3	0
For each stall, table, place or stand for the sale of meat per month - - - -	0	5	0

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5. ITOLO SLAUGHTER-HOUSE.

	£	s	d.
Under rules made, under the same sections of the same Ordinance, on the 2nd of December, 1882 :—			
For each ox, heifer, bull, cow, horse, ass or mule -	0	1	0
„ pig or sheep - - - -	0	0	6
„ goat - - - - -	0	0	3

6. CEMETERY, LAGOS.

Space for vault 8 feet square - - - -	5	0	0
„ „ grave, 8 feet by 3 - - - -	2	10	0
„ „ „ 4 feet by 2 - - - -	1	5	0

The revenue is also increased by penalties inflicted under a variety of Ordinances and by sales of Government property and of prison manufactures.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

In a Despatch addressed by the Governor of the Colony to the Secretary of State for the Colonies the following lucid exposition is given of the financial statement for the year:—

Revenue.

"The estimated revenue amounted to 56,880*l.*, whilst that actually collected totalled 78,624*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*, showing an excess over the estimate of 21,744*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*

"There were increases under the following heads, viz. :—

Head of estimate.	Amount estimated.	Amount collected.	Increase.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs - - - - -	47,000 0 0	67,307 13 3	20,307 13 3
Harbour, Wharfage, and Lighthouse Dues - - - - -	3,010 0 0	3,387 14 4	377 14 4
Licenses and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified - - -	1,945 0 0	2,962 10 4	1,017 10
Fees of Court or office payments for specific service and reimbursements in aid - - - - -	1,580 0 0	1,792 15 1	212 15 1
Total Revenue - - - -	1,080 0 0	1,187 13 0	107 13 0
Miscellaneous - - - -	210 0 0	311 5 7	101 5 7
Totals - - - -	£54,025 0 0	£76,949 11 7	£22,124 11 7

"On the other hand there were decreases to the amount of 379*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*, as under.

Head of Estimate.	Amount estimated.	Amount collected.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Rent of Government Property -	325 0 0	312 9 6	12 10 6
Interest on Investments - -	1,530 0 0	1,330 2 3	199 17 9
Land Sales - - - -	200 0 0	32 15 0	167 5 0
Totals - - - -	£2,055 0 0	£1,675 6 9	£379 13 3

"The net excess of revenue therefore amounted to 21,744*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* as stated above.

"This large increase is, of course, mainly due to the additional impost of 2*d.* per gallon on spirits and ½*d.* per lb. on tobacco under Ordinance No. 4 of 1891; the former realizing 9,533*l.*, and the latter 1,384*l.*; there was, however, a general increase of trade, the Customs duties as a whole showing an excess over estimate of 20,787*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.*

"The under-mentioned table exhibits a comparison between the Revenues of 1890 and 1891:—

Heads of Estimate.	1891.	1890.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs - - - - -	67,307 13 3	47,013 4 3	20,294 9 0	—
Harbour, Wharf and Lighthouse Dues - - - - -	3 387 14 4	2,253 17 8	1,133 16 8	—
Licenses and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified - - -	2,962 10 4	2,153 14 1	808 16 3	—
Fees of Court or Office for specific services and Reimbursements in aid - - - - -	1,792 15 1	1,583 5 8	209 9 5	—
Postal Revenue - - - -	1,187 13 0	1,157 18 0	29 15 0	—
Rent of Government Property -	312 9 6	279 11 7	32 17 11	—
Interest on Investments - -	1,330 2 3	1,452 14 10	—	122 12 7
Miscellaneous - - - -	311 5 7	187 13 10	123 11 9	—
Land Sales - - - -	32 15 0	258 13 2	—	225 18 2
Totals - - - -	£78,624 18 4	£56,340 13 1	£22,632 16 0	£348 10 9

"It will be observed from this table that there is an increase on every head of revenue with the exception of "Interest on Investments" and "Land Sales," and that the sum total of these decreases is only 348*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.* whilst the increases amount to 22,632*l.* 16*s.* This result is principally due to the addition to the tariff as previously mentioned.

Expenditure.

"The estimated expenditure for the year amounted to 57,339*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*, and the sum actually disbursed amounted to 66,388*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*, showing an excess expenditure of 9,048*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.*

"Out of this somewhat large sum, however, 6,679*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.* appears as unestimated expenditure, the principal items being as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d*
"(1) Harbour master - - -	1,302	12	9
(2) Miscellaneous - - -	635	19	0
(3) Public Works recurrent - -	1,134	15	1
(4) „ „ extraordinary -	3,530	12	3
Total - -	£6,603	19	1

"In regard to the first charge the whole of this sum was expended over the survey of the bar by an engineer sent out from England to determine whether it would be possible to deepen the channel.

"The principal item of the second charge is 381*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*, expenses in connection with the census; the rest consist of comparatively small sums under various sub-heads, the largest being 140*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.*—fees to Inspector of Weights and Measures. This sum, however, is practically balanced by an item under revenue; these fees being, in the first instance, paid into the Treasury.

"The largest item in the third charge is a sum of 566*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.* expended upon 'Five Cowrie Creek Bridge.' The Secretariat is credited with 216*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*, the Contagious Diseases Hospital, 175*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*, and the Registrar-General's office, 100*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.*

"Of the fourth item the large sum of 2,682*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* was expended over the survey of the island of Lagos. The Colonial Hospital absorbed 257*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.*, the new Mohammedan Cemetery 337*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*, and the light house 194*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*"

ADVANCES.

"The total amount of advances outstanding on the 31st December, 1891, was 1,176*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.*"

"DEPOSITS.

"The total amount of deposits for which the Government was liable on the same date was 10,464*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* out of which 6,006*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.* represented savings bank deposits."

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

"The Colony has no debt, but the balance standing to its credit on the 31st of December amounted to 40,695*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.*"

The third decade of the Colony's existence having been completed at the end of the year, it may be of interest to show in a tabular form the Revenue and Expenditure since its cession to the English.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE from the Establishment of the Colony in 1862 to 1891.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1862 - -	7,130 6 8	6,510 14 2
1863 -	16,708 2 7	15,837 0 5
1864 - -	21,335 8 0	22,805 14 11
1865 - -	24,081 10 8	24,095 4 10
1866 - -	23,816 11 8	23,602 9 8
1867 - -	29,974 13 11	30,195 8 1
1868 - -	33,895 15 11	33,711 14 6
1869 - -	40,438 2 2	39,431 0 6
1870 - -	41,683 14 10	42,379 0 10
1871 - -	45,612 2 9	45,611 14 4
1872 -	41,346 0 10	41,346 7 1
1873 - -	52,240 1 2	52,225 1 8
1874 - -	39,335 14 5	37,296 18 5
1875 - -	43,336 13 0	44,379 12 0
1876 - -	46,448 1 2	45,170 8 9
1877 - -	59,389 16 0	42,305 7 5
1878 - -	50,889 0 0	49,736 0 0
1879 - -	54,939 12 7	45,934 18 10
1880 - -	47,987 1 1	55,475 14 2
1881 - -	42,421 12 8	45,461 13 10
1882 - -	44,636 4 9	44,039 2 11
1883 - -	50,558 15 8	37,879 9 3
1884 - -	57,932 5 6	44,683 11 9
1885 - -	63,504 18 11	40,313 13 2
1886 - -	53,507 2 11	55,383 2 0
1887 - -	51,346 14 6	78,610 9 11
1888 - -	57,057 16 11	60,840 3 10
1889 - -	57,633 3 8	57,488 1 2
1890 -	56,340 13 1	63,700 16 3
1891 - -	78,624 18 4	66,388 3 11

ARMED FORCES.

The Houssa Constabulary Force and Civil Police Force of the Colony amounted in 1891 to 250 and 170 non-commissioned officers and men respectively. They were officered by an inspector general, an inspector, two assistant inspectors, one pay and quarter master, one native officer, who were attached to the Houssa and police force and by a sub-intendant and assistant sub-intendant, whose duties are chiefly connected with the police.

The Houssa force is now (in 1892) being doubled, and the police are being increased to 220.

The whole force is armed with Snider B.L. rifles, five 7-pounder M.L.R. steel guns, rocket trough, one 3-pounder quick-firing Nordenfeldt, one Maxim gun, one 0·45 Gatling gun, and two 3-barrel Nordenfeldts, ·50.

The cost of the force, including clerks, &c., amounted in all to the sum of 13,625*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.* as detailed below.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Personal emoluments—salaries	2,594	5	0
Rank and file	8,795	16	2
Horse allowance	240	12	6
Clothing and accoutrements	745	13	4
Necessaries	52	16	11
Musical Instruments	11	19	10
Gratuities	120	0	0
Ammunition	1,060	8	11
Musketry Requisites	1	11	9
Houssas in England	2	13	3
	£13,625	17	8

LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances and Rules were passed during the year by the Legislative Council :—

Date of the Law, &c.	Substance of the Law, &c.
1891.	Laws.
10th February	No. 1. An Ordinance to further amend the Customs Ordinance, 1876.
" "	No. 2. An Ordinance to prevent the improper disclosure of certain information.
3rd March	No. 3. An Ordinance to amend the Hospitals and Dispensaries Ordinance 1889, and to confer upon the Colonial Surgeon a limited power to fine hospital and dispensary attendants.

Date of the Law, &c.	Substance of the Law, &c.
1891.	Laws.
3rd March - -	No. 4. An Ordinance to increase the duties of Customs upon certain kinds of spirits and upon tobacco.
14th „ - -	No. 5. An Ordinance to legalize the detention and deportation of a certain political prisoner named Asada Owopa.
16th April - -	No. 6. An Ordinance to provide for a census being taken during the current year.
26th May - -	No. 6A. An Ordinance to allow and confirm certain expenditure for the service of the colony during the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety.
31st July - -	No. 7. An Ordinance to exempt the African Direct Telegraph Company from the payment of Customs duties and certain other dues in respect of any ship belonging to or chartered by them for the purposes of telegraph work and in respect of certain goods imported by them.
28th August (disallowed) -	No. 8. An Ordinance to regulate the dispensing and sale of drugs and poisons.
23rd October -	No. 9. An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Colony during the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-two.
30th December -	No. 10. An Ordinance to regulate the navigation of the inland waters and the management of vessels engaged therein.
	Rules, &c. passed by the Legislative Council.
30th April - -	Order exempting local steamers from the payment of light dues.
26th June - -	Order fixing the tolls and dues payable upon palm kernels and palm oil shipped from a custom-house pier.
17th July - -	Rules for the management of the lighthouse at Abekun.
31st „ - -	Amendment of rules under Prisons Ordinance, 1876.
28th August -	Order applying the laws of the Colony to the kingdoms of Addo, Igbessa and Ilaro.
24th November -	Order that the tolls and dues payable upon coal in bulk landed at or shipped from a custom-house pier shall be 1*s.* 6*d.* per ton.
„ „ -	Order that rate of rent payable in respect of lumber deposited in the Queen's warehouses be 2*s.* per 1,000 feet for a week or part of a week after the first week.

EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS.

The changes in the Executive and Legislative Councils are shown in the following statement:—

Executive Council.

Return of Members composing the Executive Council.

Names	Date of Appointment.	Date of Confirmation (taking oaths).	Whether holding any and what other Civil or Military Office.
Sir C. A. Moloney, K.C.M.G. *a*	14 Jan. 1886	13 Feb. 1886	Governor and Commander-in-Chief.
G. T. Carter, Esq., C.M.G. *b*	4 Feb. 1891	21 Sept. 1891	Governor and Commander-in-Chief.
G. C. Denton, Esq, C.M.G. *c*	9 March 1888	17 Nov. 1888	Colonial Secretary.
Oliver Smith, Esq. *d* -	17 April 1886	7 July 1886	Queen's Advocate.
W. J. P. Elliott, Esq. *e* -	27 Aug. 1889	23 Sept. 1889	Treasurer.
H. M. B. Griffith, Esq. *f* -	——	21 Aug. 1891	Treasurer.
H. W. de Sausmarez, Esq. *g*	——	3 June 1891	Acting Queen's Advocate.

Remarks.

a Quitted the Colony on the 3rd of January, and appointed Governor of British Honduras 3rd February.

b Arrived in the Colony on the 20th of September.

c Acting Governor from the 3rd of January to the 19th of September, and appointed Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and St. George 30th May.

d Absent on leave from the 2nd of June to the 31st of December.

e Quitted the Colony on appointment as Collector of Customs for Sierra Leone, 8th July.

f Appointed Colonial Treasurer 29th June, absent from the Colony from 7th December to 21st December, when Mr. E. A. Lovell, Collector of Customs, acted as Treasurer.

g Acted as Queen's Advocate during the absence of the Honourable Oliver Smith.

Legislative Council.

Return of Members composing the Legislative Council.

Names.	Date of Appointment.	Date of Confirmation (taking oaths).	Whether holding any and what other Civil or Military Office.
Sir C. A. Moloney, K.C.M.G. *a*	14 Jan. 1886	13 Feb. 1886	Governor and Commander-in-Chief.
G. T. Carter, Esq., C.M.G. *b*	4 Feb. 1891	21 Sept. 1891	Governor and Commander-in-Chief.
J. Smalman Smith, Esq. *c*	——	13 Feb. 1886	Chief Justice.
G. C. Denton, Esq., C.M.G. *d*	9 March 1888	17 Nov. 1888	Colonial Secretary.
Oliver Smith, Esq. *e* -	17 April 1886	7 July 1886	Queen's Advocate.
W. J. P. Elliott, Esq. *f* -	27 Aug. 1888	31 Aug. 1888	Treasurer.
H. M. B. Griffith Esq. *g* -	——	——	Treasurer.
H. W. de Sausmarez, Esq. *h*	——	3 June 1891	Acting Queen's Advocate.
William Hammond Esq. *i*	10 Sept. 1886	28 Dec. 1886	Unofficial.
Rev. James Johnson *j* -	do. do.	26 June 1887	——
C. J. George, Esq. *k* -	do. do.	21 Oct. 1886	——
John D. Fairley, Esq. *l* -	27 June 1890	27 June 1890	——
A. R. Elliott, Esq. *m* -	——	27 June 1890	——
T. Welsh, Esq. *n* -	——	19 Jan. 1890	——
A. J. Pell, Esq. *n* -	——	26 May 1891	——

REMARKS.

a Quitted the Colony on the 3rd of January and appointed Governor of British Honduras 3rd February.

b Arrived in the Colony on the 20th of September.

c Went on leave on the 22nd of June, when Mr. E. H. Richards, District Commissioner, acted as Chief Justice.

d Acting Governor from the 3rd of January to the 19th of September appointed Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George on the 30th of May.

e Absent on leave from the 2nd June to the 31st December.

f Acted as Colonial Secretary from 2nd April to 8th July.

g Acted as Treasurer, 2nd April to 28th June. Appointed Treasurer 29th June. Absent from the Colony from 7th December to 21st December, when Mr. E. A. Lovell, Collector of Customs, acted as Treasurer.

h Acted as Queen's Advocate during the absence of the Honourable Oliver Smith.

i Re-appointed for three years from 31st May, 1890.

j " " 10th July, 1891.

k " " 2nd June, 1890, and was sworn in on 24th October, 1890.

l Appointed for three years—absent on leave from 19th January.

m Provisionally appointed.

n Resigned in May.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

Sir C. A. Moloney, K.C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony, having been absent, under medical advice, from the 3rd of January until the 3rd of February, when he was appointed to be Governor of British Honduras, Captain G. C. Denton, C.M.G., the Colonial Secretary, acted as Governor from the 3rd of January to the 29th of September, when he was relieved on the arrival of Gilbert Thomas Carter, Esq., C.M.G., who had been appointed as Governor and Commander-in-Chief on the 3rd. of February, while on leave in England.

Captain Denton's place was filled by Captain E. Peel Inspector-General of Constabulary, who acted as Colonial Secretary from the 5th of January until the 1st of April, and by Mr. W. J P. Elliott, Colonial Treasurer, who acted in a similar capacity from the 2nd of April to the 8th of July. Temporary provision was then made for the duties of the Secretariat by the appointments of Captain A. F. Tarbet, Assistant Inspector of Constabulary, and Mr. E. A. Lovell, Collector of Customs, to act as Assistant Colonial Secretary, the former from the 8th of July to the 26th of August, and the latter from the 29th of August to the 19th of September. On the 20th of September, Captain Denton resumed the duties of his substantive appointment, and Mr. Alvan Millson, Assistant Colonial Secretary, who had been absent on leave since the 3rd of January, returned to the Colony.

Mr. Oliver Smith, Queen's Advocate and Registrar-General, was absent on leave from 2nd of June to the end of the year; during this period Mr. Havilland Walter de Sausmarez, Barrister-at-Law, acted as Queen's Advocate and Registrar-General.

LAGOS. 1891.

Mr. W. J. P. Elliott, Colonial Treasurer and *ex officio* manager of the Treasury Savings Bank, left the Colony on the 8th of August to take up the duties of Collector of Customs in Sierra Leone; and thereby the appointment of Treasurer became vacant. Mr. H. M. Brandford Griffith, Collector of Customs, returned to the Colony from leave of absence on the 30th of March, and performed the duties of Treasurer conjointly with those of his own office from the 2nd of April until the 29th of June, when he was selected for the vacant appointment. He, however, continued to combine the duties of both offices until the 19th of September, Mr. Lovell, who was appointed Collector of Customs on the 29th of August, not having taken up the duties of the office until the 20th of September.

The Colonial Surveyor was absent on sick leave from the beginning of the year until the 24th of January, when Mr. Henry Orme, foreman of works, acted as Colonial Surveyor. Mr. Anderson was again compelled to go on leave from the 29th of April to the end of the year, during which period his duties were performed by Mr. J. A. Rowse, the Senior Foreman of Works.

Captain A. J. Shuttleworth, master of Government vessels, acted as harbour master during the absence on leave of Captain Speeding from the beginning of the year until the 29th of March.

The former officer was granted leave on the 12th of April, and returned to the Colony on the 24th of November.

Mr. A. C. Stuart, engineer of Government steam vessels, who was absent from the Colony from the beginning of the year, returned on re-appointment on the 7th of July. During the year, the Honourable A. R. Elliott, M.L.C., and member of the Pilotage Board, acted as harbour master from the 26th of October to the 1st of November, and from the 9th to the 18th of the same month, when Captain Speeding was absent from headquarters.

Mr. A. C. Stuart acted in a similar capacity from the 4th to the 21st of August.

Mr. J. Smalman Smith, Chief Justice of the Colony, went on leave from the 22nd of June to the end of the year; in his absence Mr. E. H. Richards, District Commissioner, acted as Chief Justice.

During the year the duties of District Commissioner of Lagos were discharged by the following officers:—

Captain R. S. Johnstone from 1st January to 29th March, Mr. E. H. Richards from the 30th March to the 22nd of June. Mr. W. R. Higginson, Inspector of Constabulary, from the 23rd of

June to the 30th of August, and Mr. G. Stallard from the 31st of August to the 31st of December.

In the Western District M. W. R. Higginson, Inspector of Constabulary, acted as District Commissioner and Deputy Sheriff from the 1st of January to the 12th of April; Mr. E. Peel, Inspector General of Constabulary, from the 13th of April to the 18th of August; Captain W. le Poer Power, Special Service Officer, from the 19th of August to the 6th of December, and Captain R. S. Johnstone from the 7th of December to the end of the year.

Mr. G. Stallard discharged the duties of District Commissioner and Deputy Sheriff of the Eastern District from the 1st of January to the 20th of February, Mr. G. B. Haddon Smith, Assistant Inspector of Constabulary, from the 21st of February to the 8th of September, and Dr. W. R. Henderson, Assistant Colonial Surgeon, from the 9th of September to the 30th of December.

The Rev. M. Sunter, Inspector of Schools for the West African Colonies, visited the Colony for the purposes of inspection and examination, in respect of the year 1890, on the 20th of December, 1890, and departed on the 18th of March. In his unavoidable absence, Mr. Henry Carr, Sub-Inspector of Schools, was appointed, on the 2nd of November, Deputy Inspector of Schools, for the purpose of conducting the annual examinations in respect of the year 1891.

Mr. E. Peel, Inspector-General of Constabulary and Sheriff of the Colony, quitted the Colony on the 26th of August, to take up the duties of Inspector-General of Constabulary, Jamaica, for which appointment he was selected by Her Majesty. Mr. W. R. Higginson, Inspector of Constabulary, acted as Inspector-General from the departure of Mr. Peel, until he went on leave on the 1st of October. From this latter date to the end of the year the acting appointment was held by Mr. G. B. Haddon Smith, Assistant Inspector.

Mr. J. W. Lee, keeper of the prison, was absent on leave from the 24th of January to the 1st of August, during which period the duties of his office were discharged by Mr. E. H. Oke, the Chief Warder.

Captain Denton paid a visit to Jebu Ode (from 6th to 17th May) during his administration of the Government of the Colony. This visit subsequently became of no inconsiderable political and commercial importance.

Mr. John Stuart, Foreman of Works, on special appointment to superintend the erection of the light-house tower, returned to England on the 29th of March, after the completion of his work.

LAGOS. 1891.

Mr. J. T. Hutchinson, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, and Mr. Francis Smith, Puisne Judge of the Gold Coast Colony, arrived in Lagos on the 16th of March for the sitting of the Full Court of Appeal of the Colony. They returned to the Gold Coast Colony on the 29th of the same month.

Dr. J. W. Rowland, Colonial Surgeon, acted, from the 24th of August to the 15th of September, as officer in charge of the newly acquired kingdom of Ilaro, in the Western District.

POPULATION.

The following extracts from the report of the committee, appointed to prepare a method to be followed in taking the Census of 1891, are of interest as showing the local difficulties encountered :—

"1. *The Time at which the Census should be taken.*

"We think it desirable that the Census should be taken as nearly as possible at the same time as the Census in England, that is to say, in the month of April 1891.

"There are difficulties which we regard as insuperable in the way of taking the Census of the Colony in one and the same day; in the first place a sufficient number of enumerators cannot be obtained of intelligence and education adequate for the duty; there are also difficulties of transit, language and other practical objections.

"In 1881 the Census extended over a very considerable period, the extent of which the committee have not been able accurately to ascertain, but ranging from 17 to 30 days. The committee express the hope that with greater care in organisation the period may be considerably curtailed.

"Even if it were possible to adopt the English system, it is questionable whether more accurate results would be obtained by taking the number of people who "slept or abode in the house on a particular night" than by adopting the principle of enumerating the people who are "ordinarily resident in the house"; under the former system all persons absent from the Colony on the particular night would be excluded, and large numbers of persons leave Lagos town in order to attend the various markets in the vicinity, frequently travelling considerable distances and being absent from their houses and the Colony for several days; this will appear from the table compiled at the request of the committee by Mr. Payne, Chief Registrar.

"There is, too, in the town of Lagos a large floating as well as migratory population, the extent of which it is difficult to estimate, and this observation applies, but of course in a lesser degree, to

the Eastern and Western Districts of the Colony and the outlaying country in the vicinity of Lagos.

"Having regard therefore to the foregoing considerations and to the means generally at the disposal of this Government for taking what may be fairly regarded as an approximately accurate census of the population, your committee beg to submit the following recommendations:—

"The census to begin on the 6th of April and end, as regards Lagos town, on the 9th, and as regards the rest of the Colony, on the 15th of that month. The schedules, when filled in, are to be forwarded, in each case by the enumerator of the section, as follows:—(*a*) As regards Lagos town, so as to be received by the Registrar of Births and Deaths on or before the 10th of April; (*b*) as regards the Eastern and Western Districts, so as to be received by the District Commissioners of those districts respectively on or before the 18th of April; as regards the Northern District and the rest of the Colony, so as to be received by the Registrar of Births and Deaths (at Lagos) on or before the 18th of April.

"The Committee submit a draft schedule with a code of Instructions to Enumerators which embody their recommendations under this head.

"It must be remembered that the social and material condition of the great mass of the inhabitants of the Colony is such that no precedent such as might readily be adopted in England or any other highly civilised country is here available. Only a very small proportion of the people can read or write. The Census Schedule cannot, therefore, be left by the enumerator at each house for the head of the family to fill in and return to the enumerator. The instances in which this course could be adopted are so few as not to be worth consideration in determining the general scheme.

"Upon the enumerator will devolve the duty of obtaining the required information and recording it in his schedule. It is therefore, essential that the information required should be kept within strict limits and be capable of being recorded in its minor details by some simple method, as by a cross, mark, or other means, in order to facilitate the work of the enumerator and shorten his labour so far as may be consistent with the chief object to be attained by the Census, which is primarily and chiefly the numbering of the people, and the ascertaining what may be considered to be the essential characteristics of their social and material condition.

"The Schedule, it will be observed, purports to record the number of persons "ordinarily resident" in the house, differing in this essential particular from the form usually adopted in England and elsewhere, which purports to record a list of persons who "slept or abode in a dwelling on a particular night."

"The reasons which render this departure necessary will sufficiently appear from the forgoing observations, and the committee are convinced that the principle adopted will best

conduce to the obtaining the desired results; in fact, with the means at the disposal of the Government, and under existing circumstances, it is the only possible and practicable method which could be adopted.

"As regards the form of the Schedule and the particulars to be entered therein, the Committee suggest the following instruction as best adapted to the circumstances:—

"As to Column 1. the expression "house" includes all buildings and *inter alia* every *abule* or *ahere* (farmhouse), of which the whole or any part is used for the purposes of human habitation.

"If a house or compound be let or sublet to separate families or lodgers, each occupier or lodger must be returned as covering his portion of the house or compound; *e.g.*, if there are 20 rooms in one house or compound (agbo ile), and such house or compound has only one entrance to it, a separate family residing in each room of the house or compound, the return should show 20 heads of families. But where a house or compound is occupied by a man having, say, 10 or 20 wives duly married to him after the native custom, and each wife with her children and servants occupies a separate room in the house or compound, then the man who occupies such house or compound is to be returned as the head of one family, notwithstanding the fact that each wife occupies with her children and servants a separate room. Where a man, as the head of a house or compound, has several wives, and also, living in the same compound, men under him, each of the latter having a wife or wives duly married to him after the native custom, with one child or more, such men and their wives and children should be counted as separate families.

"As to column 2 we are convinced that in view of the vague and confused ideas which pervade the native mind and language respecting relationship it would be useless to attempt to introduce any such particulars as relationship to the head of the family."

The actual difficulties met with during the enumeration are set forth in part in the attached extracts from the report of the Superintendent, Mr. E. H. Richards.

"In the work of enumeration a certain amount of difficulty was experienced, but not more than I think might reasonably have been expected. Only one case occurred in which legal proceedings had to be taken against a person to compel him to give the information required by the ordinance, and he consented to give it when the case was called on, so no punishment was inflicted. Much of the difficulty in obtaining information was due to persons being away at their farms when the enumerator called on them.

"The Commissioner for the Western District reported to me as follows:—

"I consider that in Pokra 5 per cent. at least are omitted. In the Badagry district about 3½ per cent. It is almost impossible with the very scant knowledge at our disposal to

enumerate every farm and village, and until the district is properly surveyed this will always be the case. . . . . I think Appa is at least 10 per cent. short.

"In the Eastern District the villages of Ehinosa, Mawusa and Ofin, which are situate opposite Epe, could not be enumerated owing to the resistance opposed to the enumerator by the Epe people, who farm there, and who claimed the land as part of the Ijebu country. As there were probably only a few score of persons thus unenumerated, the Government did not consider it worth while for the enumerator to be sent back there on that account.

"Some allowance should doubtless be made both in the Central and Eastern Districts for persons unenumerated, but I am not prepared to say how much.

"In the town of Lagos the enumeration should be more exact, as the enumerators could visit every house, and there were several officers to supervise them. At the same time, the Census can only be regarded as affording approximate information; actual accuracy is not obtainable in the present condition of things.

* * * * * *

"I found it impossible to give the number of visitors on the night preceding the taking of the Census, as many of the enumerators had failed to understand the meaning of the term.

* * * * * *

"I felt that there ought to be some division of Africans into tribes, and I thought it best to proceed, as far as possible, on a scientific principle, and classify them by their languages. Immense difficulty was experienced in carrying out this scheme, principally on account of the large number of tribes, and the great variety of dialects.

"The different names given in the appendices as those of nations and tribes amounted to no less than 264; and it was necessary to keep them all separate until the final tabulation of results. Before that, it was impossible to say that a tribe which at first appeared insignificant might not, as the work progressed, assume an importance which would justify its appearing in an appendix by itself."

The total population as indicated in the attached returns amounted in 1891 to 85,607 as compared with 75,270 in 1881, the number of males being 41,800 and of females 43,807, as against 37,665 and 37,605 in the returns of the previous Census. Of these 150 were whites in the 1891 Census as against 117 in 1881.

As to SEX, the CONDITION as to MARRIAGE, and SOUNDNESS of MIND; and as to the NUMBER of HOUSES and SHIPS.

Locality.	Married.		Single.		Total.		Total Population.	Lunatics.		Houses or Ships.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.	
Lagos, District A - - -	1,703	2,290	3,614	3,308	5,317	5,598	10,915	3	16	1,781
„ District B - - -	709	1,113	2,116	1,976	2,825	3,089	5,914	6	6	828
„ District C - - -	1,617	2,265	1,775	1,720	3,392	3,985	7,377	5	3	1,224
„ District D - - -	1,339	1,780	2,507	2,400	3,846	4,180	8,026	15	20	1,150
Ships - - - - -	32	—	244	—	276	—	276	—	—	9
Town and Harbour of Lagos. -	5,400	7,448	10,256	9,404	15,656	16,852	32,508	29	45	4,992
Central District (exclusive of Lagos).	3,852	4,759	6,830	6,367	10,682	11,126	21,808	16	48	5,835
Eastern District - - -	1,572	2,406	2,855	2,513	4,427	4,919	9,346	17	18	2,231
Western District - - -	3,361	5,173	7,074	5,737	11,035	10,910	21,945	19	26	4,019
Total - - - -	14,785	19,786	27,015	4,021	41,800	43,807	85,607	81	137	17,077

As to Colour, Religion, Acquaintance with the English Language, and Elementary Education.

Locality.	Blacks.	Whites.	Mulattoes	Total.	Christians.	Mahomedans.	Pagans.	English-speaking.		Can read.		Can read and write.	
								Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Lagos, District A - - -	10,808	55	22	10,915	3,364	4,782	2,769	1,216	710	150	190	945	426
„ District B - - - -	5,871	39	4	5,914	2,351	2,321	1,242	863	618	183	191	622	323
„ District C - - - -	7,373	2	2	7,377	699	3,544	3,134	222	110	100	56	267	55
„ District D - - - -	7,380	28	18	8,026	2,505	3,648	1,873	581	308	87	106	404	226
Ships - - - - - -	256	19	1	276	77	—	199	273	—	1	—	35	—
Town and Harbour of Lagos - -	32,288	143	77	32,508	8,996	14,295	9,217	3,155	1,747	521	543	2,273	1,030
Central District (exclusive of Lagos) -	21,807	1	—	21,808	606	4,348	16,854	108	52	56	24	65	14
Eastern District - - - -	9,343	2	1	9,346	277	1,308	7,761	17	5	14	12	29	5
Western District - - - -		4	3	21,945	390	1,157	20,398	91	25	22	23	50	13
Total - -	85,376	150	81	85,607	10,269	21,108	54,250	3,37-	1,808	613	622	2,417	1,062

As to AGE and SEX.

Locality.	Under 10 years.		10 years and under 20 years.		20 years and under 30 years.		30 years and under 40 years.		40 years and under 50 years.		50 years and under 60 years.		60 years and under 70 years.		70 years and under 80 years.		80 years and under 90 years.		90 years and upwards.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Lagos, District A - -	910	937	1,078	1,026	1,104	1,394	1,015	988	621	554	292	293	171	234	68	107	28	40	30	25
„ District B - -	409	515	670	633	653	723	586	577	292	335	106	138	73	91	21	47	9	23	6	7
„ District C - -	39	595	679	679	773	1,341	610	727	443	350	193	116	92	86	35	50	17	29	11	12
„ District D - -	626	651	631	593	688	1,020	722	840	570	444	248	279	185	218	117	84	37	35	22	16
Ships - - -	—	—	45	—	137	—	82	—	11	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Town and Harbour of Lagos.	2,484	2,698	3,103	2,931	3,355	4,478	3,015	3,132	1,937	1,683	840	826	521	629	241	288	91	127	69	60
Central District (exclusive of Lagos).	2,049	2,028	1,569	1,602	1,575	2,510	1,925	2,553	2,052	1,548	944	484	392	237	104	80	51	40	21	14
Eastern District - -	1,011	949	769	710	659	1,135	761	1,034	666	464	345	374	167	172	49	81	—	—	—	—
Western District - -	1,969	1,835	1,782	1,691	1,947	2,515	1,964	2,283	1,613	1,449	878	699	578	312	212	90	62	24	30	12
Total - -	7,513	7,510	7,223	6,934	7,536	10,638	7,665	9,002	6,268	5,144	3,007	2,383	1,658	1,380	606	539	204	191	120	86

In consequence of the careful and complete manner in which the Census was for the first time taken, it is possible to show more detailed information as to tribes, ages, education, occupation, &c.

These appear in a very voluminous Report, made by the Superintendent, and published by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, of London Wall.

As to the OCCUPATION of NATIVES and MULATTOES.

OCCUPATION.	Town and Harbour of Lagos.	Central District (exclusive of Lagos).	Eastern District.	Western District.	Total.
Apprentices - -	134	—	1	—	135
Auctioneers - -	4	—	—	—	4
Bag makers - -	—	5	38	226	269
Bakers - -	19	—	—	4	23
Bamboo and thatch-cutters - -	33	47	33	130	243
Barbers - -	22	2	—	2	26
Barristers-at-law (of the English Bar) -	2	—	—	- -	2
Basket makers -	34	12	2	25	73
Blacksmiths -	93	29	15	44	181
Boat and canoe-makers - -	18	—	13	9	40
Bricklayers -	241	1	3	6	251
Brick makers- -	24	105	—	2	131
Butchers -	73	2	2	10	87
Calabash carvers -	3	—	—	5	8
Canoemen - -	470	120	36	153	779
Carpenters - -	448	7	6	15	476
Civil servants -	467	7	43	59	516
Clerks - -	232	—	5	4	241
Coopers - -	86	3	5	2	96
Dispenser - -	1	.	—	—	1
Domestic servants -	1,395	43	46	149	1,633
Druggist - -	5		—	—	5
Drummers - -	39	9	1	7	56
Dyers - -	1,026	227	48	58	1,884
Engineers - -	9	—	—	-	9
Farmers - -	1,432	5,653	2,321	6,505	15,911
Fetish priests -	100	79	17	112	308
Fishermen - -	818	1,593	281	374	3,066
Fish sellers - -	403	789	35	204	1,431

OCCUPATION.	Town and Harbour of Lagos.	Central District (exclusive of Lagos).	Eastern District.	Western District.	Total.
Gold and silver smiths	29	—	—	1	30
Grass preparers -	—	3	—	18	21
Hair plaiters - -	9	9	—	1	19
Hat makers - -	5	7	1	14	27
Horsemen - -	85	1	2	1	89
Hunters - -	8	39	32	13	92
Labourers - -	1,254	68	35	79	1,436
Lime burners - -	14	13	—	—	26
Mahomedan priests -	131	10	13	11	165
Masters of vessels -	2	—	—	—	2
Mat makers - -	24	135	57	497	713
Mate of vessel -	1	—	—	—	1
Mercantile agents -	11	—	2	—	13
Merchants - -	19	—	—	—	19
Ministers of religion -	22	11	—	4	37
Native Chiefs -	9	19	—	4	32
Native doctors -	102	33	9	17	164
Native-food Sellers -	946	2 125	1,404	3,621	8,096
Native hut builders -	5	12	—	—	17
Newspaper editor -	1	—	—	—	1
Painters - -	17	—	—	—	17
Palm-oil makers -	17	1,809	1,700	1,090	4,616
Palm-wine sellers -	3	60	33	41	137
Photographers -	2	—	—		2
Pot makers - -	2	3	—	97	102
Printers - -	19	2	—	—	21
Rope makers - -	6	3	—	6	15
Salt makers - -	—	—	8	—	8
Sawyers - -	38	44	9	27	118
Schoolboys - -	2,323	139	71	109	2,642
Schoolgirls - -	1,550	83	34	34	1,701
Schoolmasters -	104	13	1	6	124
Schoolmistresses -	26	4	—		30
Seaman - -	20	—	—	—	20
Sempstresses - -	291	6	4	6	307
Shoemakers - -	66	—	—	2	68
Shop attendants -	71	3	—	2	76
Snuff makers - -	20	—	30	23	73
Soap makers - -	4		—	14	18

OCCUPATION.	Town and Harbour of Lagos.	Central District (exclusive of Lagos).	Eastern District.	Western District.	Total.
Stokers - -	50	—	—	2	52
Tailors - -	424	36	27	37	524
Tanners - -	38	4	5	26	73
Telegraphists - -	2	—	—	—	2
Thatchers - -	22	—	1	20	43
Traders - -	12,040	3,861	803	3,242	19,946
Washers and ironers -	439	10	6	17	472
Watch and clock repairers - -	4	—	—	—	4
Watchmen - -	54	5	2	19	80
Weavers - -	186	21	15	38	260
Wood sellers -	170	122	9	140	441
Other occupations -	22	3	4	5	34

AREA OF LAGOS AND ITS PROTECTORATE.

The protectorate of Lagos was extended during the year 1891 by the addition of the kingdoms of Pokra, Addo, Ilaro, and Igbessa, situated to the north of the Colony.

The area of these territories is as yet imperfectly known, and the population has been computed for the kingdom of Pokra alone.

EDUCATION.—SCHOOLS.

The following notes on the progress of education during the year have been communicated by Mr. Henry Carr, B.A., Assistant Inspector of Schools for the Colony:—

The great educational event of the year is the revision of the Educational Rules of 1887 and the passing by the Board of Education of "The Amended and Consolidated Education Rules, 1891." Much labour and thought were bestowed on the revision of the old rules by the committee of the Board of Education appointed for the purpose. There were, however, not many changes introduced in the rules relating to primary education, which were chiefly extended in such a manner as to give greater encouragement for sewing amongst the girls and to offer prizes to schools reported as doing the most thorough work.

The distinguishing feature of the new rules is the satisfactory manner in which the question of secondary education has been dealt with. Syllabi of all the subjects required to be taught in secondary schools are drawn up in a schedule incorporated with the rules, and among those subjects special prominence is properly given to natural science (physics, chemistry and biology). It is to be hoped that the inducement thus held out for science teaching will effect a revolution in local education, which has been hitherto exclusively literary and somewhat wanting in concreteness and directness.

As yet there has not been an organised system of technical education. Industrial instruction is given in one of the girls' schools in the form of domestic economy, and in one of the boys' schools practical agriculture is taught on a limited scale.

The annual school inspection and examinations were held in November. The report presented to the Board of Education by Mr. Henry Carr, Deputy Inspector of schools, showed that during the year there were 84 teachers at work in the 30 schools under Government inspection.

The number of departments in these schools was 54, and there was a total roll number of 3,216 children distributed as hereunder among the religious denominations:—

Denomination.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Percentage.
Roman Catholic - -	365	307	672	21
Anglican - - -	1,076	634	1,710	53
Wesleyan - - -	491	247	738	23
Undenominational - -	54	42	96	3
	1,986	1,230	3,216	100

The total roll-number for 1890 was 3,085, the increase per cent. during the year under review being only 4·2. The percentage of increase of 1890 on the preceding year was, however, 23·4. The low rate of increase during 1891 is attributed by the Deputy Inspector to the prevalence of the epidemic of small-pox and the influenza and to the fact that the statistical returns are less inaccurate than those rendered in the previous year.

The problem how to attract a large number of Mohammedan and Pagan children to our schools still remans unsolved. There are only 347 Mohammedan children returned, as against 378 in

1890. The pagan children, however, show an increase of 110, there being 513 returned as against 403 in 1890.

The Government grants in aid of instruction, building expenses, &c. awarded this year amounted to 1,213*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, which is the largest annual sum on record. The system of payment by results initiated in 1888 is still in force, and appears to be the best security for energetic work in a country where there is so much mental indolence.

The Third Annual Competitive Exhibition of School Work was successfully held on the 26th of December. The regulations which governed the exhibition were somewhat more stringent than formerly, but the excellence of the work exhibited has been fully maintained, and in some respects surpassed. As in former exhibitions, the subjects of competition were, (1) plain sewing, (2) darning, (3) fancy needlework, (4) hand writing, (5) ornamental penmanship, (6) map drawing, (7) freehand drawing, (8) perspective of elementary solids, and (9) book-keeping.

There are to be found in the town of Lagos a few private schools which hold a very subordinate position and whose future is not encouraging. The fate awaiting them is either absorption into public denominational schools or total extinction.

FOREIGN CONSULS.

Of the under-mentioned Consuls, Messrs. S. J. Boffa, Philippe Marchelli, and J. D. Fairley no longer reside in the Colony, and have ceased to exercise their powers.

RETURN of CONSULS of Foreign Countries residing in Lagos.

Name of Consul.	Name of the Country which he represents.
S. J. Boffa - - -	Denmark.
Philippe Marchelli - -	France.
Herr Sandquist - -	Germany.
J. D. Fairley - - -	Italy.
G. W. Neville - -	Congo Free State.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The attached table shows the value at the ports of shipment of the Imports and Exports of the Colony of Lagos during each of the 30 years of its existence under the British rule :—

IMPORTS and EXPORTS from the Establishment of the Colony in 1862–1891.

Year.	Imports.			Exports.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
1862 - -	77,932	19	7	61,933	9	4
1863 - -	171,138	13	6	158,341	7	3
1864 - -	120,896	11	3	166,093	8	1
1865 - -	114,284	5	7	175,636	1	2
1866 - -	220,976	4	4	262,692	9	4
1867 - -	321,977	19	10	513,157	18	3
1868 - -	340,815	6	10	517,253	17	11
1869 - -	416,874	3	11	669,598	12	0
1870 - -	400,558	5	9	515,365	14	0
1871 - -	391,653	8	10	589,802	9	7
1872 - -	366,256	0	6	444,848	12	3
1873 - -	258,883	12	6	406,986	7	10
1874 - -	348,636	2	3	486,327	17	6
1875 - -	459,736	19	0	517,535	17	6
1876 - -	476,812	12	8	619,260	0	2
1877 - -	614,359	4	1	734,707	11	6
1878 - -	483,623	8	11	577,336	2	1
1879 - -	527,871	17	1	654,379	11	10
1880 - -	407,369	14	10	576,510	0	9
1881 - -	333,659	9	9	460,007	3	7
1882 - -	428,883	5	11	581,064	1	6
1883 - -	515,393	15	3	594,136	5	0
1884 - -	538,220	19	8	672,413	19	9
1885 - -	542,564	6	5	614,181	1	4
1886 - -	357,831	5	11	538,980	7	2
1887 - -	415,343	7	3	491,468	19	5
1888 - -	442,062	12	8	508,237	19	3
1889 - -	464,259	12	4	457,649	3	1
1890 - -	500,828	0	5	595,193	4	0
1891 - -	607,718	16	3	716,642	17	11

The apparently erratic fluctuations in the above amounts have been caused by three main influences; (*a*) the rapid decrease in the value of palm produce, owing to the discovery of mineral oils; (*b*) the natural variations in seasons by which the oil-palm (Elœis guineensis) is influenced, and (*c*) the eccentric conduct of the middlemen for the interior, whose exactions and arbitrary demands have at irregular intervals blocked the routes upon which the trade of the Colony depends.

For Lagos, in common with all West African Colonies, exists only as a trading station for the native producer, and depends, unfortunately, to a large extent upon the produce of the palm trees of the surrounding tribes.

Under the first of the above headings, it has been found impossible to trace the prices of palm oil and palm kernels since the foundation of the Colony. It suffices, however, to state that in his most prosperous days the palm oil shipper could realize as high a sum as 52*l.* a ton, in the early "sixties," while in May, 1887, the price sank for a time as low as 18*l.* 10*s.*

The following statement of prices realized in England during the past ten years will serve to show how persistent has been the fall in value of the two most important articles of export from the Colony —

LAGOS. 1891.

PRICES of PRODUCE from October 1881 to July 1891.

Palm Oil, per ton.

1881.	£	s.	d.
October	30	5	0
November	29	17	6
December	30	10	0
1882.			
January	30	10	0
February	30	17	6
March	30	12	6
April	31	12	6
May	30	0	0
Ju	30	0	0
July	33	15	0
August	35	10	0
September	36	5	0
October	35	0	0
November	36	0	0
cember	35	10	0
1883.			
January	36	15	0
February	39	0	0
March	40	0	0
April	39	0	0
May	36	10	0
June	38	15	0
July	38	15	0
August	42	5	0
September	41	15	0
October	41	2	6
November	40	13	0
December	40	0	0
1884.			
January	40	5	0
February	40	0	0
March	40	0	0
April	33	0	0
May	33	0	0
June	33	10	0
July	34	10	0
August	34	0	0
September	32	10	0
October	31	10	0
December	29	10	0

1885.	£	s.	d.
January	29	0	0
March	28	15	0
April	28	0	0
May	28	5	0
June	27	15	0
July	27	0	0
August	27	12	6
September	27	2	6
October	27	0	0
November	26	0	0
December	25	0	0
1886.			
February	21	0	0
March	23	10	0
April	20	0	0
May	21	15	0
June	21	0	0
July	21	5	0
August	21	7	6
September	22	0	0
October	23	0	0
November	21	10	0
December	22	0	0
1887.			
January	22	0	0
February	20	0	0
March	20	0	0
April	19	10	0
May	18	10	0
June	18	15	0
July	18	15	0
August	20	5	0
September	23	15	0
October	25	10	0
November	27	2	6
December	25	0	0
1888			
January	19	2	6
February	19	12	6
March	21	0	0
April	20	0	0
May	20	0	0

1888—*cont.*	£	s.	d.
June	20	0	0
July	20	0	0
August	20	0	0
September	21	0	0
October	20	0	0
November	19	10	0
December	19	10	0
1889.			
January	23	0	0
February	23	0	0
March	22	0	0
April	22	5	0
May	22	5	0
June	22	5	0
July	22	5	0
August	22	5	0
September	22	5	0
October	23	15	0
November	23	10	0
December	23	10	0
1890.			
January	22	0	0
February	22	5	0
March	23	0	0
April	24	5	0
May	24	5	0
June	24	10	0
July	25	10	0
August	29	0	0
September	29	0	0
October	24	10	0
November	24	10	0
December	24	5	0
1891			
January	24	5	0
February	24	5	0
March	24	10	0
April	24	10	0
May	24	0	0
June	23	15	0
July	25	0	0

PRICES of PRODUCE from October 1881 to July 1891.

Palm Kernels, per ton.

	£	s.	d.
1881.			
October	11	12	6
November	11	5	10
December	11	12	6
1882.			
January	11	7	6
February	11	10	0
March	12	0	0
April	11	15	0
May	12	0	0
June	12	0	0
July	12	0	0
August	12	16	6
September	13	0	0
October	13	0	0
November	13	6	3
December	12	15	10
1883.			
January	13	10	0
February	15	0	0
March	14	0	0
April	13	10	0
May	15	8	8
June	15	5	0
July	15	6	6
August	15	13	0
September	15	12	2
October	15	8	0
November	15	15	0
December	15	11	6
1884.			
January	15	15	0
February	15	17	6
March	14	16	3
1884—*cont.*			
April	13	18	0
May	13	11	3
June	14	11	0
July	14	12	6
August	14	1	3
September	13	7	6
October	12	15	0
December	13	15	0
1885.			
February	13	5	0
April	13	10	0
July	11	16	3
September	11	17	6
October	11	10	0
1886.			
February	10	12	6
March	10	17	6
April	10	10	0
June	10	0	0
August	10	2	6
September	9	18	9
October	10	2	6
1887.			
January	10	12	6
March	10	0	0
June	9	10	0
August	9	18	0
September	10	7	6
October	9	15	0
November	10	10	0
1888.			
January	10	13	9
February	8	0	0
March	10	10	0
May	10	0	0
July	10	7	6
August	9	16	3
September	10	7	6
November	10	5	0
December	10	17	6
1889.			
February	10	12	6
April	10	2	0
August	10	6	6
September	10	7	6
November	10	5	0
December	10	17	6
1890.			
January	10	5	0
February	10	15	0
March	10	8	9
May	11	15	0
June	13	0	0
July	12	17	6
September	14	5	0
October	15	7	6
November	12	15	0
December	12	15	0
1891			
March	12	7	0
April	13	2	6
May	12	11	3
June	11	17	6
July	11	13	6

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In spite, however, of this ruinous depreciation of its staple exports, the energy of the Lagos merchants and traders has contrived to maintain the average value of the trade, and to increase its volume proportionately with the fall in price.

This fact is very clearly indicated in the following statement of the quantities of palm produce exported year by year from the Colony since its foundation.

In order to make the comparison more clear the quantity of palm oil has been, by a rough calculation, expressed in tons as well as in gallons.

Year.	Palm Kernels.		Palm Oil.	
	Bags.	Tons.	Gallons.	Tons.
1862 -	119	—	528,866	1,763
1863 -	—	2,665	1,361,437	4,538
1864 -	—	4,511	1,163,407	3,878
1865	—	2,630	1,139,858	3,800
1866 -	—	7,216	1,999,066	6,397
1867 -	—	13,619	1,641,634	5,472
1868 -	—	15,498	1,460,746	4,869
1869 -	—	20,394	1,770,991	5,903
1870 -	—	15,894	1,732,448	5,841
1871 -	—	19,375	1,788,425	5,961
1872 -	—	25,870	1,301,150	4,337
1873 -	—	16,410	962,350	3,208
1874 -	—	25,192	1,383,049	4,610
1875 -	—	26,455	1,802,846	6,009
1876 -	—	30,306	1,992,468	6,641
1877 -	—	30,675	3,304,967	11,016
1878 -	—	27,874	1,540,638	5,133½
1879 -	—	26,841	2,469,348	8,231
1880 -	—	29,632	1,496,423	4,988
1881 -	—	20,801	1,807,297	6,024
1882 -	—	28,591	2,637,327	8,791
1883 -	—	25,820	1,971,359	6,571
1884 -	—	29,802	2,382,656	7,942
1885 -	—	30,805	2,657,775	8,859
1886 -	—	34,812	3,097,538	10,322
1887 -	—	35,784	2,506,146	8,354
1888 -	—	43,525	2,467,705	8,225
1889 -	—	32,715	2,349,011	7,830
1890 -	—	38,829	3,200,824	10,669
1891 -	—	42,342	4,204,835	14,016

In the following statements of some of the principal or most interesting items of Import and Export during the past five years are shown, under Exports, such of the minor values as serve to represent industries which are expected to add, in the near future, to the commercial prosperity of the Colony.

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

For five years ending 31st December 1891.

Article.	Actual Import.				
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
	£	£	£	£	£
Aerated waters -	722	923	1,088	926	1,315
Ale and porter -	1,253	1,063	1,393	1,455	1,671
Apparel - -	2,113	1,730	1,973	1,746	2,321
Beads - -	2,097	1,250	2,585	2,844	3,632
Books - -	1,443	1,453	1,127	1,459	2,364
Building materials -	10,037	9,275	8,545	11,028	10,411
Geneva - -	43,548	35,369	39,348	47,629	55,515
Gunpowder - -	2,202	2,757	3,820	1,439	4,227
Guns - -	926	1,781	2,630	1,483	2,249
Hardware - -	3,598	4,067	3,543	5,823	9,788
Matchets - -	1,321	899	1,413	771	1,263
Cotton goods -	173,879	188,474	179,334	194,322	262,370
Earthenware -	3,673	5,626	1,924	3,519	7,063
Flour - -	1,381	1,973	1,804	1,794	2,119
Rum - -	20,218	29,717	31,664	32,905	41,343
Salt - - -	8,206	6,661	,184	6,602	7,647
Shooks - -	9,852	11,771	9,438	11,245	15,578
Silk goods - -	2,486	967	1,716	2,991	7,336
Specie - -	8,193	8,284	17,275	1,927	9,259
Silver - -	5,101	17,045	38,260	58,885	69,071
Tobacco - -	16,589	19,388	19,604	15,926	15,402
Twine - -	1,357	1,305	2,273	2,487	3,333
Whiskey - -	464	421	396	469	774
Wines - -	2,402	1,598	2,824	2,258	2,194
Woollen goods -	1,517	1,262	1,972	2,320	3,257

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PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

For the five years ending 31st December 1891.

Article.	Transit Import.				
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
	£	£ s.	£	£	£
Aerated waters -	18	0 12	—	33	21
Ale and porter -	96	97 0	176	105	112
Apparel - -	63	—	—	—	4
Beads - -	—	—	—	—	10
Books - -	—	—	—	—	—
Building materials -	39	15 0	19	61	—
Geneva - -	8,646	10,877 0	10,747	2,242	10,931
Gunpowder - -	—	43 0	78	—	110
Guns - -	18	186 0	298	—	—
Hardware - -	72	12 0	61	61	266
Matchets -	76	167 0	8	—	89
Cotton goods -	3,126	4,423 0	4,969	5,610	10,038
Earthenware -	339	201 0	65	396	507
Flour - -	38	41 0	94	336	121
Rum - -	3,314	4,238 0	3,647	4,332	9,254
Salt - -	—	—	13	—	291
Shooks - -	59	—	—	—	—
Silk goods - -	—	—	—	—	—
Specie - -	—	—	—	—	1,550
Silver - -	—	—	—	—	—
Tobacco - -	9,478	4,713 0	7,282	7,827	6,699
Twine - -	—	—	—	—	18
Whiskey - -	—	—	96	11	6
Wines - -	55	98 0	160	80	171
Woollen goods -	—	—	—	—	—

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS.

For five years ending 31st December 1891.

Article.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
	£	£	£	£	£
Benniseed - -	60	290	2,132	3,599	3,028
Cocoa - -	39	117	69	322	332
Coffee - -	—	—	—	34	5
Coprah - -	—	2	2	108	606
Cotton - -	2,093	4,025	8,023	6,063	4,825
Cotton goods - -	20,311	12,992	17,098	16,176	27,531
Country cloths -	5,659	8,746	10,669	10,272	12,318
Cowries - -	805	234	46	3,024	5,061
Geneva - -	13,975	14,393	13,694	3,568	12,117
Gum copal - -	—		—	155	45
Indigo - -	—	1	3	13	10*s.*
Ivory - -	5,822	4,007	4,093	4,183	£ 3,569
Oil palm - -	151,167	123,368	133,723	190,657	252,958
Palm kernels - -	266,960	314,885	239,986	319,276	341,349
Potash - -	529	55	120	393	130
Provisions - -	258	161	593	1,054	1,501
Raphia Vinifera	—	—	—	8	6
Rum - - -	4,937	5,623	5,335	5,434	11,051
Salt - - -	1,121	1,087	864	279	1,167
Shea Butter - -	1,268	1,200	1,393	1,123	1,905
Shooks - -	483	739	351	1,812	2,922
Specie -	805	450	1,456	9,106	16,284
Tobacco - -	9,899	7,556	9,185	8,989	7,841

It is evident that in a trade which has its foundation on the barter system, the value and quantity of the imports must vary directly with the exports. There is of late years a growing tendency on the part of the native, even in the remote interior, to employ silver currency for his transactions, in place of direct

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barter or the cumbrous method of transporting vast quantities of cowrie shells from market to market. It is to be hoped indeed that the "nimble ninepence" will exert its inevitable influence on the natives, and will, in time, supplant the present form of larger currency in the interior—human beings. Hitherto the carrying powers of a slave and his intrinsic value have been in strict relations. He has been the cheque book of the country, and has been necessary for all large payments. Unfortunately he has a trick of dying while passing from hand to hand, and it is probable that the less perishable metallic currency will oust him from the commercial field.

In other ways the gradual adoption of specie payments has modified to a considerable extent the methods of trade in the Colony, and such firms as have adhered to the old barter system have had to remove to less civilized regions. This is very noticable in the case of the French firms who were at one time the leading merchants of Lagos. There are at present few traces of their existence in the Colony except the large factories which were built by them in the days of their prosperity.

The establishment of a branch of the African Banking Corporation, Limited, which took place towards the close of the year, will have a very remarkable effect on trade by increasing specie transactions, and even more, by encouraging shipments by small traders to whom money is advanced on the security of insured produce or invoiced European goods.

The attention of the natives has been directed lately to the importance of developing minor industries. Among these may be mentioned the cultivation of cocoa and coffee, which has been taken up both by the natives and in one instance, on a large scale, by European enterprise. Even more importance is now attached to cotton, which is cultivated in large quantities in the interior of Yoruba for home manufacture. During the current year, one of the obstructing tribes, who prevented direct communication with the "hinterland" has been forced to open its roads, and it is to be hoped that the shipments of cotton, which amounted to 379,300 lbs., of a value at the port of shipment of 4,825*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*, during the past year, will in 1893 be very largely increased.

Yoruba cotton is of fair quality and competes at an advantage in price with most Indian cottons.

Another important industry which awaits development is the "African Piassava" fibre, which, under less advantageous circumstances, has already established itself on other parts of the Guinea coast.

The *Raphia vinifera*, or palm-wine palm, from which this valuable fibre is produced, is even more abundant in some portions of the Colony than the oil palm; growing, as it does, in the immediate neighbourhood of the waterways of the Colony, it should in time become an important addition to the exports from the port of Lagos.

Tonnage of Sailing and Steam Vessels.

Fifteen Sailing vessels entered at the ports of the Colony in 1891 of a tonnage of 4,932 tons and with crews amounting to 152.

Twelve sailing vessels cleared, of a tonnage of 3,636, and with crews amounting to 119 men.

Four hundred and four steam vessels entered, of a tonnage of 297,592, and with crews amounting to 12,376 men.

Four hundred and five steam vessels cleared, of a tonnage of 296,037 and with crews amounting to 12,810 men.

The totals of vessels entered and cleared were as follows :—

	Tons.
Vessels entered - - - -	302,529
„ cleared - - - -	299,673

The totals for 1890 were :—

	Tons.
Vessels entered - - - -	279,418
„ cleared - - - -	276,444

Return of Lands granted and sold.

During the year a most important work, as bearing on the security of property in the island of Lagos, was completed by the Ordnance Survey carried out under the supervision of Lieutenant Buckland by a party of Royal Engineers. Pending the completion of this work land grants from the Crown within the limits of the island have been practically in abeyance. It is now, however, proposed to take up the question on a large scale in view of the numbers of applications which have accumulated.

Under Ordinance No. 15 of 1877, intituled " An Ordinance to " make better provision for the filling up of swamp lands in the " town of Lagos," grants of such lands are made to applicants on condition that they shall be properly filled in and improved to the satisfaction of the Colonial Surveyor within a fixed period from the date of the grant.

By this means large tracts of swampy land within the town of Lagos have been gradually reclaimed without expense to the Government, and now that the work can be undertaken in a more systematic manner and on a larger scale, it is to be hoped that these centres of malaria will be eventually done away with.

All Crown grants or sales of Crown land are made with due consideration for the claims of native occupants.

I have been kindly permitted by Chief Justice Smalman Smith, whose experience in matters relating to local customs make his opinion of very unusual value, to extract portions of an important judgment delivered by him in the Supreme Court of the Colony,

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in which is set forth clearly for the first time the native system of land tenure before the occupation of the Colony by the British, as well as the results of the grafting of these old Yoruba customs on the English law.

Under section 19 of the Supreme Court Ordinance of 1876 the Court is clothed with authority to enforce the observance of any native law or custom not being repugnant to natural justice, equity, and good conscience, especially in causes or matters relating, *inter alia*, to the tenure and transfer of real and personal property.

This lucid description is of the greater value as applying, with local modifications, to the whole of the tribes of Yoruba land, whose complicated system of savage feudalism, tempered by priestcraft and, strange to say, by popular acclaim, deserves the close study of ethnologists.

"The absolute ownership of territory has never, so far as my experience teaches me, been acknowledged in this Yoruba land as inherent in the sovereignty of the kings of the country, but there is undoubtedly a national proprietary right which is vested in the king and his chiefs or council, as representing the community who elect and appoint them originally, and who conjointly may exercise the right of alienation. The titles of king and chief descend generally according to the native law of inheritance, but not necessarily. The chiefs as a body with their king can depose a chief, as the chiefs may depose a king. It is unnecessary to inquire closely into the methods adopted, suffice it that they are generally summary and effective. The white-capped chiefs who are charged by the king and the community with the disposal of land have each allotted to them a portion of territory within which they might exercise their powers These powers are described by the white-capped Chief Faro in his evidence. Faro was made a white-capped chief in the time of King Adele of Lagos (1832-34); he was chief of Ojora and was deposed by Governor Glover in 1864 for attempting to enforce his control over land, contrary to the established law. He states that he is now a white-capped Chief of Lagos. He says: 'The white capped chiefs have the power to dispose of land. They cannot sell land and no chief 'could sell land. If land is given to a man and he builds on it a 'house he could not be turned out if he did not do anything 'wrong (that is to say, for example, if he took the wife of a chief or 'tried to poison the chief who gave him the land). If he died and 'left no heir, but had slaves living on the land, the slaves could 'not have authority over the land. The chiefs would give 'some one else authority over the land and the slaves, and the 'land would descend in the same way as before, subject only to 'good conduct. The slaves who live on the land, as long as they 'live in the house may live there, but they have no rights as against 'their master or his family, and might be turned out if they misbe-'haved.'

"The foregoing is a crude but tolerably accurate statement of the native law. As a rule the tenure of land among this people

represented merely the right to the beneficial use of the land, subject to the obligation of service to the chief who granted it or the payment of tribute as the case may be. The chief could neither alienate the land nor dispossess the grantee, so long as these obligations were fulfilled. Should the grantee cease to cultivate the land, or abandon it, all his rights therein were determined, and the chief could re-grant the land (Woodcock, A. P. J. judgment in Callamand *v.* Vaughan, June 20, 1878).

"In the event of the occupier dying without heirs, the chief had the power to grant the land afresh, subject to the obligations with which the land may have been burdened or charged, during the time of his predecessors. Such was the position of Ogubiyi, when this land was granted to him by Ashogbon Odunran in 1850. There is no alternative or other tenure, such as that of 'caretaker' mentioned in the petition, known to the native law, and there is no evidence to support such a contention. How then were these rights affected by the cession of Lagos? Under the treaty of August 6, 1861 between Docemo and his chiefs and the British Government, Docemo with the consent and advice of his council, gave, transferred, granted and confirmed unto the Queen of Great Britain, her heirs and successors, for ever, the port and island of Lagos, with all the rights, profits, territories and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging; and as well the profit and revenue as the direct, full and absolute dominion and sovereignty of the said port, island, and premises, with all the royalties thereof freely, fully, entirely and absolutely.

"The rights of sovereignty of the king and chiefs of Lagos over the territory of Lagos and its dependencies, were by that Treaty ceded to the Queen, and if the grantee has died subsequently to 1861 *without heirs*, the land would have reverted, not to the chiefs as formerly, but to the Queen. The rights of the chiefs (except so far as those rights were private acquired rights) to dispose of land, or dispossess those who occupied the land, under a good title by native law, usage or custom, then and there ceased to exist, and the rights of such occupiers became, if they were not then in fact vested, simultaneously with the abolition of slavery.

"It must not be supposed that every description of tenure by service is included in this proposition. I have repeatedly affirmed by judgments in this Court the rights of private owners of land to recover possession thereof where there is a tenure by service or by rent or tribute, and the service (being a lawful service, S. 19. S. C. O. 1876), rent or tribute is refused by the tenant, and when such a tenant deliberately applies himself to injure or annoy his chief or his family.

"Further, there are usages and customs relating to the conditions under which land may be used or occupied, peculiar to certain localities; to which I need only refer in passing. (*See* judgment of Marshall, J., in Idewu *v.* Ogubiyi, May 9, 1878.)"

LAGOS. 1891.

The question of land wrongfully acquired by squatting and encroachments on the public streets and squares will be dealt with on the lines indicated by the Survey. It will also be of very great value in helping the carrying out of street improvements undertaken in portions of the native town which are from time to time devastated by destructive fires. On payment of due compensation except in the case of encroachments, the Government has power to lay out, widen and otherwise alter streets on the sites of such fires. By this means wide roads are gradually being extended throughout the town, and the intricate bye ways which delight the heart of the native, and foster prevalent diseases, are being gradually replaced by thoroughfares.

The importance of the Survey as a record for the guidance of the Court in property cases must also be very great.

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

The total number of prisoners committed during 1891 was 180, as compared with 215 in 1890, 328 in 1889, 268 in 1888, 264 in 1887, 262 in 1886, 225 in 1885, 225 in 1884, 274 in 1883, 232 in 1882, 222 in 1881, 351 in 1880, 425 in 1879, 313 in 1878.

There is very little doubt that the effects of the solitary system can be clearly traced in the above figures. So long as the associated wards, which have now been replaced by a model prison based on the English system, were in existence the happy burglar looked upon his periods of retirement from more active enterprise as a very reasonable price to pay for the privileges of his profession.

Not only have the prisoners been reduced in numbers by the introduction of more rigorous regulations, but they have had the advantage of learning various trades, during their employment on the construction of their own prison, and of late years very excellent work has been done and taught in bricklaying, bookbinding, carpentering, tailoring, and basket, brush screen, and mat making from local fibres. Their skill in these trades will now compare very well with that of European artizans, and not a few are in consequence enabled to earn an honest livelihood on leaving gaol. In this connection it must be observed that imprisonment seems to convey no sense of dishonour or shame to the friends of the guilty party, unless it be at the discreditable fact of his having so mismanaged his affairs as to have been caught and convicted. With the prospects of a hospitable "hinterland" in which to seek refuge, and the absence of social restraints, it is to be wondered at that the percentage of crime to population is so small.

The offences most in vogue in the Colony are shown in the attached tables of criminal statistics.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

I.—OFFENCES

Table showing the number of Offences reported to the Police or the Magistrates during 1891.

Total Number of Offences reported.	Offences against the Person.	Cattle Stealing and Arson.	Offences against Property other than Cattle Stealing and Arson.	Other Offences.
29	1	—	28	—

II.—APPREHENSIONS AND SUMMONSES.

Table showing the Number of Persons brought before the Magistrates' Court by Arrest, Warrant or Summons for Offences, and how their Cases were disposed of in the Magistrates' Court.

—	Number Discharged for Want of Prosecution by the party complaining or for want of evidence.	Number of Cases dismissed on the Merits.	Number of Persons summarily Convicted.	Number of Persons committed for Trial in the Superior Courts.
Offences against the person	49	21	69	27
Cattle stealing and arson	1	—	5	—
Offences against property other than cattle stealing and arson - -	24	10	106	23
Offences against Master and Servants Acts, including Acts relating to indentured coolies -	6	—	11	—
Other offences - -	25	21	221	1
Total number of persons summoned or apprehended - -	105	52	412	65

LAGOS. 1891.

III.—SUMMARY CONVICTIONS.

Table showing the number of Summary Convictions for various classes of offences, and the kind of Punishments Inflicted.

Punishments.	Total number of offences.	Assaults and other offences against the person.	Malicious Injuries to Property.	Cattle Stealing and Arson.	Offences against Property other than malicious injuries to Property or Cattle Stealing and Arson.	Offences against Revenue Acts, Highway Acts, Health Acts, and other Acts relating to the Social Economy of the Colony.	Offences against Master and Servants Acts, including Acts relating to Indentured Coolies.	Other Offences.
Fine - - - -	173	40	1	—	2	53	1	76
Imprisonm ent in lieu of fine or surety - - -	5	2	—	—	—	1	—	2
Peremptory imprisonment -	124	12	—	5	85	—	—	22
Whipping - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bound over with or without sureties or other trivial punishment - - -	32	7	—	—	4	2	10	9
Total - -	334	61	1	5	91	56	11	109

IV.—INDICTMENTS AND INFORMATIONS IN THE SUPERIOR COURTS.

Including courts analogous to the courts of Quarter Sessions in England—i.e., District Courts.

	Total.	Murder, other than Wife and Child Murder.	Manslaughter.	Attempt to Murder.	Murder of Wife, reputed Wife, or Concubine.	Child Murder.	Concealment of Birth.	Abortion.	Rape.	Unnatural Crimes.	Other offences against the Person.	Malicious Injuries to Property.	Robbery with Violence.	Cattle Stealing and Arson.	Other Offences against Property.	Miscellaneous Offences.
Judgment for the Crown - - -	4	1	2	1					1		3		2		13	6
Judgment for the Prisoner - -	11	2	2	1							5				4	
Prisoners found Insane - - -																
Case fell through for want of Prosecution, including cases where Nolle Prosequi entered by Queen's Advocate -	6		1								1					

V.—COMPARATIVE TABLE.

Comparative Table showing the Number of Offences, Apprehensions, Convictions and Acquittals, for the last four years.

	1891.	1890.	1889.	1888.
Number of offences reported to the police - -	29	51	22	25
Number of persons apprehended by the police, or summoned before the magistrate.	634	724	708	728
Number of summary convictions—				
1. For offences against the person - -	62	84	86	136
2. For cattle stealing and arson - -	5	—	10	13
3. For offences against property other than cattle stealing and arson.	93	101	81	89
4. For other offences - - - -	174	212	105	126
Number of convictions in the Superior Court—				
1. For offences against the person - -	24	2	23	15
2. For cattle stealing and arson - -	—	—	1	—
3. For offences against property other than cattle stealing and arson.	15	23	19	38
4. For other offences - - - -	9	14	8	17
The number of persons acquitted—				
1. In the Inferior Courts - - -	157	180	270	255
2. In the Superior Courts - - -	17	25	36	26

HOSPITAL RETURNS, &c.

The following interesting notes on the sanitary and vital statistics have been communicated by the Acting Colonial Surgeon, Dr. W. R. Henderson, and by the Chief Registrar of Courts, Mr. J. A. O. Payne :—

During the year, 801 in-patients were treated in the General Hospital, and of these 72 died, being a percentage of 8·89. The diseases which caused the largest mortality were those of the respiratory and digestive systems, the most serious disease of the respiratory organs being pneumonia, and of the digestive system dysentery. A large number of the deaths from pneumonia may be credited to the epidemic of influenza which prevailed towards the end of the year : as this epidemic followed one of small-pox, this year has been marked by a mortality considerably above the average. Of the patients treated 37 were Europeans, but no

deaths occurred; the majority of the diseases were fevers and disorders of the digestive system.

In the contagious diseases hospital, 94 patients were treated, 74 were cases of small-pox and 20 other infectious diseases. Amongst the small-pox patients there was a death-rate of 21·6 per cent., 488 small-pox patients received treatment at their own homes, and of these 37, or 7·58 per cent., died; but as registration of death was not then compulsory these figures are of little value. The difference in the death-rate may, however, be in some measure due to the fact that nearly all those who went into hospital were Krooboys who had newly arrived in Lagos, and consequently were not vaccinated, whereas the majority of the people in the town had been operated on by the public vaccinator, and in such casse the disease was of a much milder type.

In the town of Lagos vaccination has been actively performed, 15,089 persons having been operated on during the year.

In addition to the in-patients who were treated in the general and contagious diseases hospitals, 2,519 out-patients received treatment at the general hospital, and 3,398 received treatment at Ereko dispensary.

The NUMBER LIVING of the WHITE POPULATION at each of the last TWO CENSUSES completed, arranged according to ages.

1881.

109 Males. Ages.					8 Females. Total 117. Ages.
25	37	32	28	28	25
30	32	27	26	26	39
22	44	26	41	22	30
20	36	29	28	44	33
30	30	27	17	58	21
41	25	19	18	24	24
66	25	35	26	26	26
26	26	19	22	24	22
40	55	20	29	46	
20	19	38	23	60	8
19	23	39	40	53	
18	20	28	44	27	
42	18	26	37	49	
41	19	45	24	32	
22	45	18	37	36	
34	16	39	33	49	
31	32	24	27	26	
37	21	29	41	45	
34	20	22	41	50	
31	31	31	57	18	
30	21	31	28	55	
34	19	27	32		
—	—	—	—	109	

1891.

134 males, 16 females; total 150. Ages varied; cannot be ascertained owing to schedules not available.

The number living of the white population at the end of each of the intervening years: these appear to be enumerated each year irrespective of ages.

No record kept and impossible to be ascertained owing to constant changes and removals.

The deaths among the white population during each of the two census years and each intervening year with the ages at death specified:—

Year.	Male.		Female.		Total.	Ages.
	Resident.	Visitor.	Resident.	Visitor.		
1881	7	3	0	0	10	23, 27, 40, 16, 56, 32, 50, 36, 30, 31.
1882	3	1	0	0	4	32, 18, 21, 26.
1883	8	3	0	0	11	34, 32, 30, 45, 51, 23, 28, 15, 40, 28, 49.
1884	10	1	0	0	11	33, 40, 47, 29, 22, 41, 4½, 25, 33, 3½, 28.
1885	5	3	0	0	8	33, 34, 45, 35, 40, 27, 40, 40.
1886	7	2	0	0	9	30, 34, 52, 70, 40, 26, 35, 30, 24.
1887	6	3	0	1	10	75, 39, 37, 33, 32, 25, 31, 40, 30, 37.
1888	10	0	1	0	11	37, 35, 32, 65, 24, 31, 33, 29, 48, 41, 25.
1889	9	0	2	0	11	32, 30, 37, 24, 45, 50, 54, 35, 30, 50, 37.
1890	3	1	1	0	5	22, 38, 35, 30, 31.
1891	2	4	2	0	8	33, 21½, 22, 28, 27, 20, 27, 27.

N.B.—In 1881 the deaths include 1 male Missionary of the C.M.S.

1884.—2 Male Roman Catholic Missionaries.

1885.—1 Do. Do.

1886.—1 Colonial Engineer of Lagos.
1 Doctor of s.s. "Fragot."

1887.—1 Male Catholic Missionary.
1 Colonial Surgeon of Lagos.
1 Foreman of Works of Lagos.

1888.—1 Gaoler of Lagos.
1 Italian Consul (suicide).
1 Male Missionary of the C.M.S.
1 Surveyor General of Lagos Government.
1 Colonial Engineer.
1 Barrister-at-Law.

1889.—2 Captains of branch steamers of the African Steamship Company.
1 Engineer, branch steamer.
1 Female Missionary, American Baptist.

1890.—1 Captain, German Army.
1 Male Missionary, C.M.S.
1 Captain, branch steamer.

1891.—1 Physician, German Government, from Cameroon.
1 Male teacher, German Government, from Cameroon.
1 Lieutenant, Imperial German Army.
1 Captain of the Artillery, Belgian Army, from Congo (suicide).
2 Sisters of Mercy, Roman Catholic Mission.

SAVINGS BANK (TREASURY).

The number of depositors during 1891 was 233 as compared with 181 in 1890. The amount of deposits and withdrawals during the year reached 5,195*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.* and 4,427*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.*, as compared with 4,217*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* and 2,277*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.* in 1890, and the total amount at the credit of the depositors at the end of the year was 6,130*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* as compared with 5,363*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.*

It was expected that the establishment of a bank in the Colony would considerably affect the amount invested in the Savings Bank, but up to the close of the year this does not seem to have been the case, a slight increase in all branches of the savings banks business being indicated by the above figures. This was, however, in all probability due to the prosperous state of trade during the year.

(Signed) ALVAN MILLSON,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Lagos,
1st August 1892.

No. 95.

LAGOS.

[For Report for 1891 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 58.]

Acting Governor DENTON to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Lagos,
September 29, 1893.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book for the year 1892, together with a report on it which has been prepared by Mr. Alvan Millson, Acting Colonial Secretary.

2. The year to which the publication bears reference was in every way a very trying one to Lagos, and it is gratifying to find the marked manner in which the trade of the Colony has benefited by the increased facilities for communication with the interior countries brought about by the Jebu Expedition.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE C. DENTON.

Colonial Secretariat, Lagos,
September 28, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward for transmission to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies six copies of the Lagos Blue Book for 1892, together with my report on the returns rendered by the various heads of Departments.

I regret that unavoidable circumstances should have caused an unexpected delay in the completion of this return.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALVAN MILLSON,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency George Chardin Denton, C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.
Acting Governor.

LAGOS. 1892.

REPORT on the LAGOS BLUE BOOK for 1892.

DUTIES.

The increase in Customs duties on spirits, initiated by Ordinance No. 4 of 1891, was continued by the enactment on the 22nd of June, 1892, of "An Ordinance to consolidate and "amend Customs Tariff Ordinances."

By this law all previous Customs Ordinances of the Colony were repealed, the duty on spirits was raised from 8*d.* to 1*s.* the gallon, on tobacco from 2½*d.* to 3*d.* a pound, and the *ad valorem* duty on goods was increased from 4 to 5 per cent.

Some slight alterations were made in the table of exemptions, and the drawbacks upon exportation of dutiable articles to Porto Novo were arranged to suit the new scale of charges.

The following tables show the Customs dues, at the close of the year, of the Colony and its French and German neighbours of Porto Novo, the Cameroons, and Togoland.

CUSTOMS TARIFF.

Lagos (English).

Articles.	Amount of Duty in English Money.	Amount of Duty in German Money.	Amount of Duty in French Money.
	s. d.	Mks. Pf.	Fcs. Cts.
On wines, liqueurs, brandy and cordials of any sort, the Imperial gallon -	1 0	1 0	1 25
On spirits, not being liqueurs, brandy, or cordials, the Imperial gallon - Such spirits not exceeding, if imported in wood, the strength of Sykes' Hydrometer and so in proportion of any greater strength.	1 0	1 0	1 25
On tobacco, the pound - - -	0 3	0 25	0 31·25
On beer and malt liquor of any sort in bottles, the dozen - - -	0 9	0 75	0 93·75
On beer and malt liquor of any sort in wood, the Imperial gallon - -	0 4½	0 37	0 46·25
On cigars, the thousand - -	5 0	5 0	6 25
On Cowries, the hundredweight -	1 0	1 0	1 25
On salt, the ton - - -	5 0	5 0	6 25
On gunpowder, the barrel - -	2 0	2 0	2 50
On guns, each - - - -	1 0	1 0	1 25
On pistols, each - - -	0 6	0 50	0 62

On all other goods of every description, not enumerated, an *ad valorem* duty of 5 per cent. on the value of the goods at the port from which the same shall have been imported.

Table of Exemptions.

All goods imported by the Governor for his private use.

All goods imported with the sanction of the Governor for the service of any public Department of the Colony.

Books, newspapers, and printed matter.

Copybooks, drawing books and materials, and apparatus and other educational materials, and apparatus imported, with the sanction of the Governor, for the use of any school or mission.

Mathematical, scientific, and surgical instruments.

Photographic apparatus and materials.

British coins and other coins current in the Colony.

Building and roofing materials, including stone, bricks, timber, planks, doors, shutters, metal plates or piles, roof slates and tiles, white lime, cement, house paint, and paint brushes, door locks, keys, hinges, nails, screws, bolts and bars, window frames, glass and fastenings, artizans' tools, and all such other building or roofing materials or stores as the Governor by writing given under his hand and published in the Gazette shall have declared to be building or roofing materials or stores for the purposes of the Ordinance.

Passengers' luggage.

Packages in which goods are usually imported.

Puncheon shooks, including the iron hoops and rivets or hooks, required for making them up.

Telegraphic stores, instruments, machinery, plant, and gear within the meaning of Ordinance No. 7 of 1891.

Porto Novo (French).

Articles.	Weights and Measures.	Amount of Duty in		In English	
		French Money.	German Money.	Weights and Measures.	Money.
Geneva :—		Fcs. Cts.	Mks. Pfs.		*s. d.*
30° (Gay Lussac) - - - -	per 1 to 8 litres	2 0	1 60	per gallon	0 10
From 30° to 50° (Gay Lussac) - -	"	3 0	2 40	"	1 3
Above in proportion - - -	—	—	—	—	—
Spirits of any other description:—					
1° to 30° (Gay Lussac) - -	per 100 litres	10 0	8 0	per 12½ gallons.	4 2
From 30° to 50° (Gay Lussac) - -	"	15 0	12 0	"	6 3
Above in proportion - - -	—	—	—	—	—
Tobacco, including cigars - - -	per kilog.	0 35	0 28	per lb.	0 1½
Arms and Ammunition (prohibited) -	—	—	—	—	—
Other Articles (free) - - -	—	—	—	—	—

Cameroon (German).

Articles.	Amount of Duty in			In English.	
	German Money.	French Money.	English Money.	Weights and Measures.	Money.
	Mks. Pfg.	Fcs. Cts.	*s. d.*		*s. d.*
Geneva, per litre:—					
Up to 49°	0 20	0 25	0 2·4	per gallon	0 9½
Rum, per litre:—					
Up to 49°	0 20	0 25	0 2·4	„	0 9½
Over 49°	0 40	0 50	0 4·8	„	1 7
Alcohol, per litre:—					
Up to 49°	0 20	0 25	0 2.4	„	0 9½
Over 49°	0 40	0 50	0 4·8	„	1 7
Other spirits in bottles, per litre	0 40	0 50	0 4·8	„	1 7
„ „ casks, „	0 30	0 38	0 3·6	„	1 2·4
Guns, each	2 50	3 13	2 6	each	2 6
Common trade powder, per kilog.	0 15	0 19	0 1·8	per 100 lbs.	7 6
Other powder, per kilog.	0 20	0 25	0 2·4	„	10 0
Tobacco, per kilog.	0 20	0 25	0 2·4	per lb.	0 1·2
Salt, per ton	10 0	12 50	10 0	per ton.	10 0
Rice, per kilog.	0 02	0	0 2·4	per lb.	0 0·12
Cotton, per kilog.	0 20	0 25	0 2·4	„	0 1·2

Togo-land (German).

Articles.	Amount of Duty in			In English.	
	German Money.	French Money.	English Money.	Weights and Measures.	Money.
	Mks. Pfs.	Fcs. Cts.	*s. d.*		*s. d.*
Geneva, per case of 8 litres=2 gallons:—					
Below 40°	0 64	0 80	0 7¾	per gallon	0 3¾
From 40° to 60°	0 96	1 20	0 11½	„	0 6
Above 60°	1 60	2 0	1 7¾	„	0 10
Rum, per litre:—					
Below 40°	0 $3\frac{3}{10}$	0 4	0 0·384	„	0 0·2
From 40° to 60°	0 $4\frac{8}{10}$	0 6	0 0·576	„	0 0·3
Above 60°	0 8	0 10	0 1	„	0 0·5
Tobacco, per kilog.	0 20	0 25	0 2·4	per lb.	0 1·2
Gunpowder, per 100 lbs.	5 0	6 25	5 0	per 100 lbs.	5 0
Guns, each	1 0	1 25	1 0	each	1 0
Salt, per 1,000 kilos.	8 0	10 0	8 0	per ton	8 0

Owing to the difference in the alcoholimeters in use in these Colonies, which are, at Lagos, Sykes'; at Porto Novo, Gay Lussac's; and in the German territories, Tralles', and also to the different methods adopted of calculating rates of proportionate increase, it is difficult to show in a comparative table the relative rates of the different ports of entry, but the following statements will serve to illustrate the practical results as far as Lagos and Porto Novo are concerned.

Spirits, &c.	Measure.	Strength.	Lagos.	Porto Novo.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Alcohol	per puncheon of 100 Imperial Gallons.	60 per cent. over proof (Sykes).	8 0 0	8 5 0
Rum	"	21 per cent. under proof (Sykes.)	5 0 0	2 16 0
Gin	per case of 1½ gallons	42 per cent. under proof (Sykes.)	0 1 8	0 2 5
Rum	per demijohn of 2 gallons.	21 per cent. under proof (Sykes.)	0 2 0	0 1 1
Old Tom Gin	per 2 gallons	—	0 2 0	0 2 10
Cordials	"	—	0 2 0	0 1 0
Wines	"	—	0 2 0	0 0 6

RENTS.

Wharfage.

By Ordinance No. 7, 1892, entitled "An Ordinance to abolish "wharfage dues upon goods landed at or shipped from a Custom "House Pier" the tolls and dues, which had been in force during the first half of the year, were abolished, and the landing of goods became free.

The actual amount lost by the Government from the 22nd of June until the end of the year amounted to 1,248*l.*, but this was covered to a considerable extent by the additional 1 per cent. *ad valorem* duty which had been imposed for that purpose.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The Treasurer of the Colony, when forwarding the financial statement for the year, made the following report on the statistics of income and expenditure:—

The revenue for the year amounted to 68,421*l.*

The expenditure for the same period being 86,513*l.*, showing an excess of expenditure over revenue of 18,092*l.*

At the close of the year there was an excess of assets over liabilities of 22,604*l.*

Revenue.

The actual receipts, 68,421*l.*, failed to realise the estimate, 68,455*l.*, by 34*l.*

But for the fact that in June the duty on spirits was increased from 8*d.* to 1*s.* the gallon, on tobacco from 2½*d.* to 3*d.* the pound, and the *ad valorem* duty from 4 per cent to 5 per cent., our receipts would have fallen much below the estimates.

This sudden decrease in the revenue is to be attributed to the attitude assumed by the Jebus towards this Government, which rendered an expedition against that people necessary and caused the stoppage of all trade between the Colony and the interior for the greater portion of the year.

The receipts under reimbursements and internal revenue were generally in excess of the estimates, the more important being:—

	£
Licenses - - - - -	326
Fees, &c. - - - - -	428
Postal Revenue - - - -	94
Miscellaneous - - - - -	536

These excesses are mainly due:—

(1.) To the vigilance of Customs officers in the previous year, and to various fines and penalties imposed, amounting to 80*l.*

(2.) To greater activity in the Courts, 56*l.* Refund on account of the services of mechanics in making alterations to the old Treasury premises, 111*l.*, and to fees received under the Weights and Measures Ordinance and refunded to officers entitled thereto, 111*l.*

(3.) To additional postal transactions consequent on the reduction of postal rates and increased sale of stamps to meet the requirements of the Stamp Duty Ordinance, 172*l.*

(4.) To the passing to general revenue of unclaimed deposits standing in the books of the Colony for over five years, 536*l.*, and to recovery of over payments in previous years, 66*l.*

The only important items which failed to realise the estimate were those under "Harbour, Wharfage, and Lighthouse Dues." This head of receipt fell short of the estimate by 1,341*l.*, consequent on the abolition in June of all wharfage dues, 1,248*l.*, and the exemption of south-west coast steamers bringing mails from the payment of lighthouse dues. These changes were not contemplated at the time the estimates were framed.

Expenditure.

	£
The expenditure during the year amounted to -	86,513
whilst the estimate was - - - -	69,744
showing an excess over the estimate of - -	£16,769

The excesses under the various heads amounted in the gross to - - - - - -	18,436
against which must be set off as savings under other heads - - - - - -	1,667
	£16,769

The more important excesses occurred under the following heads :—

	£
Treasury - - - - -	354
Customs - - - - -	974
Printing Office - - - - -	303
Harbour Master's Department - - -	881
Government Vessels - - - -	343
Educational - - - - -	105
Constabulary - - - - -	845
Transport - - - - -	674
Aborigines - - - - -	171
Miscellaneous - - - - -	257
Colonial Surveyor's Department - - -	273
Public Works Recurrent - - -	7,805
Special - - - - - -	5,404

which may be attributed :—

(1.) *Treasury.*

To unestimated salary of the late Treasurer, Mr. Elliott, 184*l.*, and interest on saving bank deposit for 1891, being carried to account in 1892, 123*l.*

(2.) *Customs.*

To drawback claims of 1891, being paid in 1892, 330*l.*, and to the increased duty on spirits whilst the transit rate remained the same.

(3.) *Printing.*

To the printing of the School and Census reports, 67*l.*, 1885 Blue Book, 70*l.*; and to judicial forms, 184*l.*, improperly charged to this vote.

(4.) *Harbour Department.*

To expenses in connexion with the survey of the Bar, 737*l*; buoying channels for safe navigation, 96*l.*; and the erection of flagstaffs in newly acquired territories, 94*l.*

(5.) *Government Vessels.*

To increased transport services performed by the Government vessels consequent on the Jebu Expedition, 391*l.*

(6.) *Education.*

To Education Grant of 1891, being paid in 1892, 1214*l.*, and expenses on account of the school exhibition of 1891 and 1892, 46*l.*

(7.) *Constabulary.*

To the force being increased, 1,170*l.*, and ammunition required for the Jebu Expedition, 193*l.*

(8.) *Transport.*

To additional transport and travelling allowances granted on account of the Jebu Expedition.

(9.) *Aborigines.*

To the salary and allowances of a travelling Commissioner, not estimated for, 345*l.*, and initial expenses in connexion with the Governor's expedition to the interior in 1893 and provided for in that year's estimates, 216*l.*

(10.) *Miscellaneous.*

To fees paid officers under the Weights and Measures Ordinance, 113*l.*, and transactions in connexion with remittances to England and interest on advances, 119*l.*

(11.) *Surveyor's Department.*

To increased salaries sanctioned and payments on account of 1891 made in 1892, 132*l.*, and allowance for two students in Jamaica for 1891, paid in 1892, 88*l.*

(12.) *Public Works Recurrent.*

To the building of a new house at Badagry, wrongly charged to this vote 298*l.*

To the clearing of the Addo River, 399*l.*; the extensions of the Customs Pier, also charged to this vote, 4,834*l.*, and votes for cement, timber, and other materials being under-estimated.

(13.) *Special.*

To its becoming necessary to take the field against the Jebus and the Governor's Expedition to Ondo.

The principal votes under which a saving was effected are:—

	£
Governor - - - - -	121
Prisons - - - - - -	236
Medical - - - - - -	112
Public Works extraordinary - - -	825

which may be explained as follows:—

(1. Undrawn salary of Private Secretary, 154*l.*

(2.) Votes for bedding, 35*l.*; rations for prisoners, 159*l.*; hospital rations 22*l.* over estimated.

(3.) To disallowance of personal allowance to Dr. Rowland, 100*l.*, and supplies of 1892, paid for in 1893, 58*l.*

(4.) To work on New Hospital being deferred and to work done on the Marina Embankment, officers' quarters, and water latrines, being below the estimates.

REVENUE and EXPENDITURE from the Establishment of the Colony in 1862 to 1892.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1862 - -	7,130 6 8	6,510 14 2
1863 - -	16,708 2 7	15,837 0 5
1864 - -	21,335 8 0	22,805 14 11

REVENUE and EXPENDITURE from the Establishment of the Colony in 1862 to 1892—*continued.*

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1865 - -	24,081 10 8	24,095 4 10
1866 - -	23,816 11 8	23,602 9 8
1867 - -	29,974 13 11	30,195 8 1
1868 - -	33,895 15 11	33,711 14 6
1869 - -	40,438 2 2	39,431 0 6
1870 - -	41,683 14 10	42,379 0 10
1871 - -	45,612 2 9	45,611 14 4
1872 - -	41,346 0 10	41,346 7 1
1873 - -	52,240 1 2	52,225 1 8
1874 - -	39,335 14 5	37,296 18 5
1875 - -	43,336 13 0	44,379 12 0
1876 - -	46,448 1 2	45,170 8 9
1877 - -	59,389 16 0	42,305 7 5
1878 - -	50,889 0 0	49,736 0 0
1879 - -	54,939 12 7	45,934 18 10
1880 - -	47,987 1 1	55,475 14 2
1881 - -	42,421 12 8	45,461 13 10
1882 - -	44,636 4 9	44,039 2 11
1883 - -	50,558 15 8	37,879 9 3
1884 - -	57,932 5 6	44,683 11 9
1885 - -	63,504 18 11	40,313 13 2
1886 - -	53,507 2 11	55,383 2 0
1887 - -	51,346 14 6	78,610 9 11
1888 - -	57,057 16 11	60,840 3 10
1889 - -	57,633 3 8	57,488 1 2
1890 - -	56,340 13 1	63,700 16 3
1891 - -	78,624 18 4	66,388 3 11
1892 - -	68,421 9 4	86,513 8 2

CONSTABULARY.

The Houssa Constabulary Force and Police Force of the Colony were added to with the intention of raising them from 250 to 500, and from 170 to 220 non-commissioned officers and men.

Recruiting was, of necessity, slow, and the actual cost of the Force, including clerks, &c., was only increased from 13,625*l.* to 14,926*l.*

The men are armed with Snider breech-loading rifles, which proved to be sufficiently effective during the Jebu war. A certain number of picked men are each year sent for gunnery training to England, and have shown fair proficiency in action with machine guns and 7-pounder field pieces.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The chief works on hand during 1892 are shown in the attached list.

Of these the Mohammedan cemetery wall, and that of the Ikoyi cemetery, surround plots of land measuring 9 acres and 9 acres 2 rods in extent respectively.

The telephone was completed early in 1893 and is a great convenience to all the Government offices. It is proposed at an early date to extend the system widely among the various classes of the mercantile community.

The work of perhaps most importance, from a sanitary point of view, is the Marina Embankment wall, which now extends along the frontage of the island for a length of over 2 miles. An annual vote is made for its extension, and the work will be continued until the whole town is protected from the unhealthy influences of a foreshore exposed to the tropical sun at every tide.

Other important work was done during the year on the roads, streets, and bridges of the Island.

The remaining works are connected with the general scheme for the construction of the necessary public buildings for the Departments of the Colony.

LIST OF WORKS ON HAND DURING 1892.

Secretarial repairs, completed.
Solitary cells, not completed.
Mohammedan cemetery wall, completed.
Registrar General's Office, completed.
Ikoyi cemetery wall, completed.
New Government House, not completed,
Telephone, not completed.
New Government House Wharf, not completed.
New quarters for District Commissioner, Badagry, not completed.
New Customs Warehouse, not completed.
New Stores, Meyer's Yard, not completed.
New printing office, not completed.
Marina Embankment, not completed.

LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances, Orders in Council, and Rules were passed by the Legislative Council during the year :—

Date of the Law,	Substance of the Law, &c.
1892.	*Laws.*
19th April - -	An Ordinance to amend the Constabulary Ordinance, 1879, and to provide for a temporary increase to the Constabulary Force of the Colony.
21st May - -	An Ordinance to make provision respecting wrecks and other casualties affecting ships and as to salvage.
21st „ - -	An Ordinance to regulate the Importation into, and the storage and Disposal of Firearms, Ammunition, and Gunpowder, in the Colony of Lagos.
18th June - -	An Ordinance to provide for the Discipline of the members of the Lagos Constabulary Force when in the United Kingdom for instruction or for other duty.
18th „ - -	An Ordinance to amend "The Lagos Alien Children Registration Ordinance, 1877."
22nd „ - -	An Ordinance to consolidate and amend Customs Tariff Ordinances.
22nd „ - -	An Ordinance to abolish Wharfage dues upon goods landed at or shipped from a Custom House pier.
3rd August -	An Ordinance to legalize certain payments made in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one beyond the expenditure authorised by law.
3rd October -	An Ordinance to legalize the detention and deportation of a certain political prisoner, Abaku of Moshi.
22nd November -	An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Colony during the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-three.
	Orders in Council, &c.
22nd February -	Exempting South-west Coast Mail Steamers from the payment of light dues.
19th April - -	Extending the Spirit License Ordinances to Mobido, Lege, and Igbogun Island in the Eastern District of the Colony.
22nd „ - -	Temporarily increasing the strength of the Constabulary Force of the Colony.
21st May - -	Defining Districts for the purposes of the Births, Deaths, and Burials Ordinance, 1889.
15th June - -	Granting permission to Mr. R. Moor to recruit and enrol one hundred and ten men (not being Houssas) for service in the Oil Rivers Irregulars.

Date of the Law, &c.	Substance of the Law, &c.
1892.	*Orders in Council, &c.*
15th June - -	Declaring that the Custom House pier shall cease to be a Custom House pier for the purposes of the Wharfage Ordinance, 1889, and that the pier known as that of Messrs. T. E. Tomlinson & Co. shall be a Custom House Pier for the purposes of the said Ordinance until further order.
18th „ - -	Fixing the salaries of Officers appointed by the Governor under section 6 of Ordinance No. 5 of 1889.
19th August -	Revoking Order of the 15th June and declaring that the pier known as that of Messrs. T. E. Tomlinson & Co. shall cease to be a Custom House pier, and that the pier known as the Custom House pier shall be the sole Custom House pier for the purposes of Ordinance No. 7 of 1892.
11th November -	Exempting the S.S. "Teck" from the payment of Light Dues.
18th „ -	Applying the Spirit License Ordinances to the territory lying between the town of Bayeku on the West and a point on the left bank of the Oshun River on the East.
16th December -	Applying the Laws, &c. of the Colony to the kingdom of Pokra.
	Rules passed by the Legislative Council.
22nd November -	Rules for Lagos Meat Markets.
16th December -	For regulating the position and sizes of, and the prices to be paid for, spaces for vaults and graves.

COUNCILS AND ASSEMBLIES.

In the following returns are shown the changes during the year in the members of the Executive and Legislative Councils:—

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

RETURN of MEMBERS composing the Executive Council.

Names.	Date of Appointment.	Date of Confirmation (taking oaths).	Whether holding any and what other Civil or Military Office.
G. T. Carter, Esq., C.M.G.	4 Feb. 1891	21 Sept. 1891	Governor and Commander-in-Chief.
G. C. Denton, Esq., C.M.G. *b*	9 Mar. 1888	15 June 1888	Colonial Secretary.
G. Stallard, Esq. *c* -	18 Jan. 1892.	31 Mar. 1892	Queen's Advocate.
H. M. B. Griffith, Esq. *d*-	29 June 1891.	21 Aug. 1891	Treasurer.

Legislative Council.

Return of Members composing the Legislative Council.

Names.	Date of Appointment.	ate of Confirmation king oaths).	Term, if any, for which elected or appointed.	Whether holding any and what other Civil or Military Office.
				Ex-officio.
G. T. Carter, Esq., C.M.G. -	4 February 1891 -	21 September 1891 -	- - - - -	Governor and Commander-in-Chief.
J. Smalman Smith, Esq. *a* -	——	13 February 1886 -	- - - - -	Chief Justice.
G. C. Denton, Esq., C.M.G. *b* - -	9 March 1888 -	15 June 1888 -	- - - - -	Colonial Secretary.
G. Stallard, Esq. *c* - - -	18 January 1892 -	31 March 1892 -	- - - - -	Queen's Advocate.
H. M. B. Griffith, Esq. *d* - -	29 June 1881 -	21 August 1891 -	- - - - -	Treasurer.
C. J. George, Esq. - -	16 August 1890 -	24 August 1890 -	Re-appointed for three years from the 24th August, 1890.	Unofficial.
Rev. James Johnson - -	7 February 1891 -	15 June 1891 -	Re-appointed from 15th June, 1891	,,
A. R. Elliott, Esq. *e* - -	5 May 1892 -	18 June 1892 -	Appointed for three years from the 18th June, 1892.	,,
A. J. Pell, Esq. *f* - - -	26 May 1891 -	——	Provisionally appointed - -	,,
T. Welsh, Esq. - - -	5 May 1892 - -	18 June 1892 -	Appointed for three years from 18th June 1892.	,,
C. T. Mullins, Esq. *g* - -	8 December 1892 -	——	Provisionally appointed - -	,,

Remarks.

a Absent on leave till 14th February. Mr. E. H. Richards acted as Chief Justice during his absence. Acted as Deputy Governor from 8th to 16th August.

b Acted as Deputy Governor from 10th February to 8th March, and from 1st to 8th November. Absent on leave from 21st March to 24th October, during which period Mr. A. Millson acted as Colonial Secretary.

c Appointed Queen's Advocate 18th January. Went on leave 8th September.

d Absent on leave from 6th April to 24th October. Mr. Lovell acted as Treasurer from 16th April to 4th August, and Mr. W. R. Higginson, from 5th August to 24th October.

e Died 24th October. *f* Appointment lapsed on Mr. Welsh being appointed in May. *g* In the place of the late Mr. A. R. Elliott.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

Six months' leave of absence, which was afterwards extended to seven months and four days, was granted to the Honourable G. C. Denton, C.M.G., the Colonial Secretary, from the 21st March. During the absence of this officer the duties of the Colonial Secretary were discharged by Mr. Alvan Millson, Assistant Colonial Secretary. Mr. Millson was absent from the Colony, on leave of absence, from the 16th November to the end of the year.

The Honourable Oliver Smith, Queen's Advocate, having accepted an appointment in the West Indies, Mr. George Stallard was appointed, on the 18th of January, Queen's Advocate and Registrar-General. Mr. Stallard was absent on leave from the 8th September to the end of the year.

The Honourable H. M. B. Griffith, Colonial Treasurer, was absent on leave from the 16th of May to the 25th of October. From the 16th of May to the 5th of August the duties of the Treasurer were performed by Mr. E. A. Lovell, together with his duties as Collector of Customs, and from the 5th of August to the 25th of October by Mr. Walter Higginson, Inspector of Constabulary.

Mr. E. A. Lovell, Collector of Customs, was absent on leave from the 6th of August to the end of the year. During his absence the duties of Collector of Customs were performed by Mr. Walter Higginson, Inspector of Constabulary, from the 5th August to 25th October, and by the Honourable H. M. B. Griffith, together with his duties as Treasurer, from 26th of October to the end of the year.

During the absence on leave of Mr. George Cole, Postmaster, from the 20th April to the 20th June, his duties were performed by Mr. A. T. Coker, Chief Clerk in the Post Office.

Mr. Rowse, Foreman of Works, was appointed Assistant Colonial Surveyor, on one year's probation, from the 25th of October.

Chief Justice Smalman Smith was absent from the Colony, from the 1st of January to the 14th of February. During his absence Mr. E. H. Richards acted as Chief Justice.

Mr. A. C. Stuart, Engineer of Government Vessels, was absent on leave from the 6th of July to the end of the year.

Mr. E. H. Richards, District Commissioner, was absent on leave from May the 30th to December the 21st.

During the year the following officers performed the duties of District Commissioner of Lagos:—

Dr. W. R. Henderson, Senior Assistant Colonial Surgeon, from the 18th of January to the 14th of February.
Mr. E. H. Richards, from the 15th February to 30th May.
Mr. R. S. Johnstone, from 30th May to 23rd August.
Mr. F. C Fuller, from 24th August to 21st December.

Lagos. 1892.

In the Western District the duties of District Commissioner were performed by the following officers :—

Mr. R. S. Johnstone, from 1st January to 17th May.
Major J. H. Ewart, Travelling Commissioner, from 30th May to end of the year.

Mr. A. Millson, Assistant Colonial Secretary, discharged the duties of District Commissioner of the Eastern District from the 1st January to 11th March, and Mr. George Smith, Chief Clerk of Customs, from 12th March to the end of the year.

Mr. J. W. Lee, Keeper of the Prison, was absent on leave from the 16th November to the end of the year.

Pensions.

An increase to the cost of the pension list was caused by a grant of 40*l.* a year to the widow of Mr. A. C. Willoughby, a promising young native officer who was shot in action against the Jebus.

Area of Lagos.

In addition to the extension of the protectorate of the Colony to the Kingdoms of Addo, Ilaro, Pokra, and Igbessa, which was made in 1891, the circumstances of the Jebu war forced the Government to accept the cession by the King and authorities of a portion of their territory comprising the main lagoon—side markets for the exchange of trade with the interior of Yoruba. To secure a more complete control it was thought necessary to place this new territory directly under the Government by making it an integral portion of the Colony.

The freedom of the main route to the interior was safeguarded by the occupation, with a force of Houssa Constabulary under European officers, of Jebu Ode, the capital of the country, and the chief town on the most direct road to Ibadan.

The exact area of the territory added to the Colony by this arrangement has not yet been ascertained, but it does not, in all probability, exceed 255 square miles.

Education.

The following notes on the progress of education during the year have been supplied by Mr. Henry Carr, B.A., the Inspector of Schools for the Colony.

The Rev. M. Sunter, M.A., Inspector of Schools for the West African Colonies, arrived at Lagos on the 25th of October, and immediately began the annual inspection and examination of the schools in the Colony. On the 14th December, while absent on duty in the Northern District, he had a fever, and returned to Lagos the next day only to die. His connexion with West Africa extended over 21 years, during the latter 10 of which he was

School Inspector. By his death West African education has lost a very able servant, and the negro a true friend.

The examination of the schools was completed by the Sub-Inspector of Schools, who was appointed Acting Inspector on the 19th of December. His Report, which was presented to the Board of Education on the 24th of March 1893, showed that during the year the total number of schools and departments under Government inspection was 55, and the number on the registers included 2,991 children distributed as hereunder:—

Denomination.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Percentage.
Anglican - - -	1,019	617	1,636	54·70
Wesleyan - - -	487	220	707	23·64
Roman Catholic - -	339	309	648	21·66
Total - - -	1,845	1,146	2,991	100

In 1891 the total number on the registers was 1,986 boys, 1,230 girls = 3,216. There is thus a falling off of 225 children. This numerical decrease is, however, more apparent than real. On the ruins of the undenominational "Hope School" there has been established the "United Native African School," which has drawn its supply from the other schools at Lagos, and is not an assisted school. The number on the registers of the new school is 155 boys + 83 girls = 238. It may, therefore, be correctly asserted that the number of children attending school is the same during the year under report as in the previous school year.

The distribution, according to religion, stands as follows:—

Religion.	No. of children.	Percentage.
Christians - - - -	2,338	72·4
Mahommedans - - -	408	12·6
Pagans - - - -	483	15·0

In regard to religion, the proportion (per cent.) in Christian schools of the population of the town of Lagos is: Christians 30 per cent., Mahommedans 2·4 per cent., and Pagans 5·4 per cent. Neither the Mahommedans nor the Pagans furnish a regular source of supply to Christian schools. It is only due to adventitious circumstances that a few children from that section of the community are to be found in Christian schools.

LAGOS, 1892.

There were 55 Mahommedan schools in Lagos, and the number of children attending these schools was 1,246, there being in each school an average of 23 children in attendance. These schools exert but very little direct influence on the community. The children are taught nothing more than to read the Koran mechanically, and to recite it from memory.

Elementary education would be widely diffused in this country if the Mahommedans could be induced to organise a system of sending their children to Christian schools, or to reconstruct their own schools on similar lines to those on which the Christian Schools are worked. At present the suggestion to do one thing or the other only excites suspicion and resistance in the minds of the Mahommedan priests.

Under these circumstances it is very gratifying to report that during the year there was an increase of no less than 61 Mahommedan children in Christian schools, and that the Acting Governor did not cease to bring the weight of his influence to bear upon the important question of Mahommedan education. The most recent public act of Captain Denton in this direction was to convene a meeting of the Mahommedan priests and teachers, and to reassure them of offers of encouragement and assistance from the Government, if English reading, writing, and arithmetic, should be taught in their schools. They, however, stuck at giving any decided answer to his Excellency until they should have communicated with their more enlightened brethren abroad.

The income and expenditure of the schools of the different societies, and the Government grant-in-aid for the year ended the 30th September 1892, are given below:—

Society.	Income.	Expenditure.	Government. Grant.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Anglican - - -	2,394 0 11	2,094 0 6½	636 2 8
Wesleyan - - -	765 7 4½	798 19 11½	173 12 0
Roman Catholic - -	1,254 3 4½	1,954 2 9½	513 0 6
	4,413 11 8	4,847 3 3½	1,322 15 2

The fourth annual Competitive Exhibition of School Work was held in December. The quality of the work exhibited was of the high standard of excellence reported last year. Some of the articles that gained prizes have been sent to the Imperial Institute in London.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The trade of the Colony suffered severe, though temporary, injury from the hostile attitude assumed by the Egbas and Jebus, the two "middleman" tribes through whose hands most of the trade of the populous interior has to pass. The situation had become more strained every year for some time past, and eventually the forbearance of the Government was brought to an end by the Jebus, who, by a breach of their treaty with the Colony, forced the authorities to take action.

The Jebu Expedition may be fairly described as having been cheap and effective. All contracts for supplies, transport, &c. were ade locally by the civil authorities. Native troops and constabulary, officered by Europeans, were employed, and, at a cost of under 5,000*l.* in all, one of the chief tribes of this part of West Africa was reduced to reason. The total loss of trade caused by the hostility of the Egbas and Jebus may be estimated at 225,000*l.* There is no doubt, however, that the large increase of trade during the present year is in part owing to the fact that the Egbas, though maintaining an unfriendly attitude during the Jebu crisis, reserved their produce with the intention of bringing it down to the markets of the Colony as soon as the storm had blown over.

By the diplomacy of the Governor, Sir Gilbert Carter, the Egbas, although irritated by the lesson given to the Jebus, were induced to resume friendly relations with the Colony, without actual hostilities having occurred on either side.

It is now evident that the adjustment of these long standing differences will add very considerably to the trade of the Colony, by throwing open to direct intercourse the fertile "hinterland" of Yoruba.

The prices of produce, values of the principal imports and exports, and the quantities of the two chief articles of export, given in my last year's Report, are here reproduced and brought up to date. It is interesting to note in this connexion, as an instance of the increased prosperity of the Colony, that the total trade for the first eight months of 1893 amounted to 1,127,339*l.*

The commercial history of the Colony since its foundation may be traced in the attached table :—

IMPORTS and EXPORTS from the Establishment of the Colony in 1862–1892.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Totals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1862 - -	77,932 19 7	61,933 9 4	139,866 8 11
1863 - -	171,138 13 6	158,341 7 3	329,480 0 9
1864 - -	120,896 11 3	166,093 8 1	286,989 19 4
1865 - -	114,284 5 7	175,636 1 2	289,920 6 9
1866 - -	220,976 4 4	262,692 9 4	483,668 13 8
1867 - -	321,977 19 10	513,157 18 3	835,135 18 1
1868 - -	340,815 6 10	517,253 17 11	858,069 4 9
1869 - -	416,874 3 11	669,598 12 0	1,086,472 15 11
1870 - -	400,558 5 9	515,365 14 0	915,923 19 9
1871 - -	391,653 8 10	589,802 9 7	981,455 18 5
1872 - -	366,256 0 6	444,848 12 3	811,104 12 9
1873 - -	258,883 12 6	406,986 7 10	665,870 0 4
1874 - -	348,636 2 3	486,327 17 6	834,963 19 9
1875 - -	459,736 19 0	517,535 17 6	977,272 16 6
1876 - -	476,812 12 8	619,260 0 2	1,096,072 12 10
1877 - -	614,359 4 1	734,707 11 6	1,349,066 15 7
1878 - -	483,623 8 11	577,336 2 1	1,060,960 1 0
1879 - -	527,871 17 1	654,379 11 10	1,182,251 8 11
1880 - -	407,369 14 10	576,510 0 9	983,879 15 7
1881 - -	333,659 9 9	460,007 3 7	793,666 13 4
1882 - -	428,883 5 11	581,064 1 6	1,009,947 7 5
1883 - - -	515,393 15 3	594,136 5 0	1,109,530 0 3
1884 - -	538,220 19 8	672,413 19 9	1,210,634 19 5
1885 - -	542,564 6 5	614,181 1 4	1,156,745 7 9
1886 - -	357,831 5 11	538,980 7 2	896,811 13 1
1887 - -	415,343 7 3	491,468 19 5	906,812 6 8
1888 - -	442,062 12 8	508,237 19 3	950,300 11 11
1889 - -	464,259 12 4	457,649 3 1	921,908 15 5
1890 - -	500,828 0 5	595,193 4 0	1,096,021 4 5
1891 - -	607,718 16 3	716,642 17 11	1,324,361 14 2
1892 - -	522,040 17 5	577,083 1 2	1,099,123 18 7

PRICES of PRODUCE from October 1881 to June 1893.

Palm Oil, per ton.

	£	s.	d.
1881.			
October	30	5	0
November	29	17	6
December	30	10	0
1882.			
January	30	10	0
February	30	17	6
March	30	12	6
April	31	12	6
May	30	0	0
June	30	0	0
July	33	15	0
August	35	10	0
September	36	5	0
October	35	0	0
November	36	0	0
December	35	10	0
1883.			
January	36	15	0
February	39	0	0
March	40	0	0
April	39	0	0
May	36	10	0
June	38	15	0
July	38	15	0
August	42	5	0
September	41	15	0
October	41	2	6
November	40	13	0
December	40	0	0
1884.			
January	40	5	0
February	40	0	0
March	40	0	
April	33	0	0
May	33	0	0
June	33	10	0
July	34	10	0
August	34	0	0
September	32	10	0
October	31	10	0
December	29	10	0
1885.			
January	29	0	0
March	28	15	0
April	28	0	0
May	28	5	0
June	27	15	0
July	27	0	0
August	27	12	6
September	27	2	6
1885—cont.			
October	27	0	0
November	26	0	0
December	25	0	0
1886.			
February	21	0	0
March	23	10	0
April	20	0	0
May	21	15	0
June	21	0	0
July	21	5	0
August	21	7	6
September	22	0	0
October	23	0	0
November	21	10	0
December	22	0	0
1887.			
January	22	0	0
February	20	0	0
March	20	0	0
April	19	10	0
May	18	10	0
June	18	15	0
July	18	15	0
August	20	5	0
September	23	15	0
October	25	10	0
November	27	2	6
December	25	0	0
1888.			
January	19	2	6
February	19	12	6
March	21	0	0
April	20	0	0
May	20	0	0
June	20	0	0
July	20	0	0
August	20	0	0
September	21	0	0
October	20	0	0
November	19	10	0
December	19	10	0
1889.			
January	23	0	0
February	23	0	0
March	22	0	0
April	22	5	0
May	22	5	0
June	22	5	0
July	22	5	0
August	22	5	0
1888—cont.			
September	22	5	0
October	23	15	0
November	23	10	0
December	23	10	0
1890.			
January	22	0	0
February	22	5	0
March	23	0	0
April	24	5	0
May	24	5	0
June	24	10	0
July	25	10	0
August	29	0	0
September	29	0	0
October	24	10	0
November	24	10	0
December	24	5	0
1891.			
January	24	5	0
February	24	5	0
March	24	10	0
April	24	10	0
May	24	0	0
June	23	15	0
July	25	0	0
August	24	10	0
September	23	16	0
October	23	13	0
November	22	5	0
December	22	0	0
1892.			
January	21	17	6
February	20	19	0
March	21	12	6
April	20	9	0
May	20	8	0
June	20	10	0
July	20	10	0
August	20	16	0
September	21	16	0
October	22	9	0
November	23	12	6
December	24	6	0
1893.			
January	25	4	0
February	30	6	
March	29	16	
April	25	10	6
May	25	1	0
June	24	0	0

PRICES of PRODUCE from October 1881 to June 1893.

Palm Kernels, per ton.

1881.	£	s.	d.
October	11	12	6
November	11	5	10
December	11	12	6

1882.	£	s.	d.
January	11	7	6
February	11	10	0
March	12	0	0
April	11	15	0
May	12	0	0
June	12	0	0
July	12	0	0
August	12	16	6
September	13	0	0
October	13	0	0
November	13	6	3
December	12	15	10

1883.	£	s.	d.
January	13	10	0
February	13	0	0
March	14	0	0
April	13	10	0
May	15	8	8
June	15	5	0
July	15	6	6
August	15	13	0
September	15	12	2
October	15	8	0
November	15	15	0
December	15	11	6

1884.	£	s.	d.
January	15	15	0
February	15	17	6
March	14	16	3
April	13	18	0
May	13	11	3
June	14	11	0
July	14	12	6
August	14	1	3
September	13	7	6
October	12	15	0
December	13	15	0

1885.	£	s.	d.
February	13	5	0
April	13	10	0
July	11	16	3
September	11	17	6
October	11	10	0

1886.	£	s.	d.
February	10	12	6
March	10	17	6
April	10	10	0
June	10	0	0
August	10	2	6
September	9	18	9
October	10	2	6

1887.	£	s.	d.
January	10	12	6
March	10	0	0
June	9	10	0
August	9	18	0
September	10	7	6
October	9	15	0
November	10	10	0

1888.	£	s.	d.
January	10	13	9
February	8	0	0
March	10	10	0
May	10	0	0
July	10	7	6
August	9	16	3
September	10	7	6
November	10	5	0
December	10	17	6

1889.	£	s.	d.
February	10	12	6
April	10	2	0
August	10	6	6
September	10	7	6
November	10	5	0
December	10	17	6

1890.	£	s.	d.
January	10	5	0
February	10	15	0
March	10	8	9
May	11	15	0
June	13	0	0
July	12	17	6
September	14	5	0
October	15	7	6
November	12	15	0
December	12	15	0

1891.	£	s.	d.
March	12	7	0
April	13	2	6
May	12	11	3
June	11	17	6
July	11	13	3
August	11	15	0
September	11	3	0
October	10	18	0
November	10	11	3
December	10	17	0

1892.	£	s.	d.
January	10	17	6
February	10	15	0
March	10	12	6
April	10	6	6
May	10	4	0
June	10	7	0
July	10	7	6
August	10	12	0
September	10	15	0
October	10	15	6
November	10	16	0
December	10	14	3

1893.	£	s.	d.
January	10	17	0
February	12	17	6
March	11	14	0
April	10	12	6
May	11	3	0
June	11	7	0

The following were the average prices of palm-oil, and palm-kernels for the above-named years :—

Year.	Palm Oil, per Ton.	Palm Kernel, per Ton.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1881 - - - -	30 4 2	11 10 3
1882 - - - -	32 19 5	12 5 11
1883 - - - -	39 6 9	14 19 11
1884 - - - -	34 14 1	14 5 6
1885 - - - -	27 17 3	12 7 9
1886 - - - -	21 13 5	10 6 3
1887 - - - -	21 11 9	10 1 10
1888 - - - -	19 19 7	10 1 11
1889 - - - -	22 13 9	10 8 6
1890 - - - -	24 15 0	12 7 5
891 - - - -	23 17 5	9 14 8
- - - -	21 12 1½	10 11 10½

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

For six years ending 31st December 1892.

Article.	Actual Import.					
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Aerated waters -	722	923	1,088	926	1,315	1,159
Ale and porter -	1,253	1,063	1,393	1,455	1,671	1,214
Apparel - -	2,113	1,730	1,973	1,746	2,321	2,288
Beads - -	2,097	1,250	2,585	2,844	3,632	4,603
Beef and Pork -	616	1,039	649	1,120	564	1,237
Books - -	1,443	1,453	1,127	1,459	2,364	2,031
Bread and Biscuits	857	1,123	1,077	947	1,478	1,565
Building materials -	10,037	9,275	8,545	11,028	10,411	17,812
Chemicals and drugs	978	921	1,211	1,126	1,746	1,379
Coal - - -	1,22	818	1,173	2,071	1,446	3,559
Geneva - -	43,548	35,369	39,348	47,629	55,515	42,105
Gunpowder - -	2,202	2,757	3,820	1,439	4,227	3,188
Guns - - -	926	1,781	2,630	1,483	2,249	3,675
Haberdashery -	8,419	6,395	8,293	10,631	10,295	10,688
Hardware - -	3,598	4,067	3,543	5,823	9,788	6,745
Hoop Iron - -	2,292	1,657	1,324	2,048	1,718	1,750
Kola Nuts - -	2,653	4,262	2,929	1,702	1,998	7,721
Matchets - -	1,321	899	1,413	771	1,263	1,936
Cotton goods -	173,879	188,474	179,334	194,322	262,370	155,466
Earthenware -	3,673	5,626	1,924	3,519	7,063	3,140
Flour - - -	1,381	1,973	1,804	1,794	2,119	3,296
Oil, lamp - -	718	461	1,540	1,469	2,391	2,333
Provisions - -	4,615	4,626	4,024	5,198	5,478	5,765
Rice - - -	3,436	6,180	2,788	3,693	4,436	6,439
Rum - - -	20,218	29,717	31,664	32,905	41,343	22,267
Salt - - -	8,206	6,661	7,184	6,602	7,647	6,921
Shooks - -	9,852	11,771	9,438	11,245	15,578	11,486
Shots - - -	1,923	1,024	677	1,053	1,196	2,[illegible]
Silk goods - -	2,486	967	1,716	2,991	7,336	
Specie - -	8,193	8,284	17,275	1,927	9,259	
Silver - -	5,101	17,045	38,260	58,885	69,071	
Tobacco - -	16,589	19,388	19,604	15,926	15,402	
Twine - -	1,357	1,305	2,273	2,487	3,33[illegible]	
Whiskey - -	464	421	396	469	7	
Wines - -	2,402	1,598	2,824	2,258	[illegible]	
Woollen goods -	1,517	1,262	1,972	2,320		

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

For the six years ending 31st December 1892.

Article.	Transit Import.					
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
	£	£ s.	£	£	£	£
Aerated waters -	18	0 12	—	33	21	161
Ale and porter -	96	97 0	176	105	112	192
Apparel - -	63	—	—	—	4	147
Ammunition -	21	—	45	1	18	2,041
Beads - -	—	—	—	—	10	300
Books - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Building materials -	39	15 0	19	61	—	2,136
Geneva - -	8,646	10,877 0	10,747	2,242	10,931	16,652
Gunpowder - -	—	43 0	78	—	110	—
Guns - -	18	186 0	298	—	—	—
Hardware - -	72	12 0	61	61	266	1,896
Matchets - -	76	167 0	8	—	89	248
Cotton goods -	3,126	4,423 0	4,969	5,610	10,038	10,910
Earthenware -	339	201 0	65	396	507	561
Flour - -	38	41 0	94	336	121	122
Rum - -	3,314	4,238 0	3,647	4,332	9,254	7,416
Salt - -	—	—	13	—	291	59
Shooks - -	59	—	—	—	—	—
Silk goods - -	—	—	—	—	—	27
Specie - -	—	—	—	—	1,550	—
Silver - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tobacco - -	9,478	4,713 0	7,282	7,827	6,699	5,929
Twine - -	—	—	—	—	18	31
Whiskey - -	—	—	96	11	6	51
Wines - -	55	98 0	160	80	171	130
Woollen goods -	—	—	—	—	—	10

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS.

For six years ending 31st December 1892.

Article.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
	£	£	£	£		£
Ammunition -	21	—	45	1	13*s.*	2,037
					£	
Benniseed -	60	290	2,132	3,599	3,028	265
Building materials	—	327	387	801	958	2,904
Cocoa - -	39	117	69	322	332	390
Coffee - -	—	—	—	34	5	12
Coprah - -	—	2	2	108	606	85
Cotton - -	2,093	4,025	8,023	6,063	4,825	565
Cotton goods -	20,311	12,992	17,098	16,176	27,531	20,905
Country cloths -	5,659	8,746	10,669	10,272	12,318	12,283
Cowries - -	805	234	46	3,024	5,061	4,539
Geneva - -	13,975	14,393	13,694	3,568	12,117	24,341
Gum copal -	—	—	—	155	45	680
Haberdashery -	81	54	113	276	631	1,680
Hardware -	219	85	201	600	554	1,596
Indigo - -	—	1	3	13	10*s.*	5
					£	
Ivory - -	5,822	4,007	4,093	4,183	3,569	2,526
Palm oil - -	151,167	123,368	133,723	190,657	252,958	137,742
Palm kernels -	266,960	314,885	239,986	319,276	341,349	260,109
Potash - -	529	55	120	393	130	284
Provisions -	258	161	593	1,054	1,501	2,228
Raphia Vinifera -	—	—	—	8	6	—
Rice - -	92	278	220	412	234	1,409
Rum - -	4,937	5,623	5,335	5,434	11,051	8,584
Salt - -	1,121	1,087	864	279	1,167	395
Shea Butter -	1,268	1,200	1,393	1,123	1,905	1,930
Shooks - -	483	739	351	1,812	2,922	3,208
Specie - -	805	450	1,456	9,106	16,284	59,283
Tobacco - -	9,899	7,556	9,185	8,989	7,841	6,701

Year.	Palm Kernels.		Palm Oil.	
	Bags.	Tons.	Gallons.	Tons.
1862 -	119	—	528,866	1,763
1863 -	—	2,665	1,361,437	4,538
1864 -	—	4,511	1,163,407	3,878
1865 -	—	2,630	1,139,858	3,800
1866 -	—	7,216	1,999,066	6,397
1867 -	—	13,619	1,641,634	5,472
1868 -	—	15,498	1,460,746	4,869
1869 -	—	20,394	1,770,991	5,903
1870 -	—	15,894	1,732,448	5,841
1871 -	—	19,375	1,788,425	5,961
1872 -	—	25,870	1,301,150	4,337
1873 -	—	16,410	962,350	3,208
1874 -	—	25,192	1,383,049	4,610
1875 -	—	26,455	1,802,846	6,009
1876 -	—	30,306	1,992,468	6,641
1877 -	—	30,675	3,304,967	11,016
1878 -	—	27,874	1,540,638	5,133½
1879 -	—	26,841	2,469,348	8,231
1880 -	—	29,632	1,496,423	4,988
1881 -	—	20,801	1,807,297	6,024
1882 -	—	28,591	2,637,327	8,791
1883 -	—	25,820	1,971,359	6,571
1884 -	—	29,802	2,382,656	7,942
1885 -	—	30,805	2,657,775	8,859
1886 -	—	34,812	3,097,538	10,322
1887 -	—	35,784	2,506,146	8,354
1888 -	—	43,525	2,467,705	8,225
1889 -	—	32,715	2,349,011	7,830
1890 -	—	38,829	3,200,824	10,669
1891 -	—	42,342	4,204,835	14,016
1892 -	—	32,180	2,458,260	8,194

TONNAGE OF SAILING AND STEAM VESSELS.

Six sailing vessels, all under foreign flags, entered at the ports of the Colony in 1892, of a tonnage of 1,928 tons and with crews amounting to 57, as against 15 in 1891, of 4,932 tons and with crews numbering 152.

The same sailing vessels, with the same number of their crews, cleared during the year, as compared with 12 in 1891, of a tonnage of 3,636, and crews amounting to 119.

Four hundred and forty steam vessels entered, of a tonnage of 335,770 tons and 14,591 men of their crews, as against 404 in 1891, of 297,592 tons, with crews numbering in all 12,376.

Four hundred and fifty-two steam vessels cleared, of a tonnage of 335,420 tons and with 14,730 men of their crews, as compared with 405 in 1891, of 296,037 tons and with crews amounting to 12,810 men.

The totals of vessels entered and cleared were as follows in 1891 and 1892 respectively :—

	1891.	1892.
Vessels entered - - - -	302,529	337,698
Vessels cleared - - - -	299,673	337,348
Total - -	602,202	675,046

VITAL STATISTICS, &c.

The following report by the Registrar-General is interesting as showing the result of the recent attempt to enforce by law the accurate registration of births and deaths.

Births.

The number of births registered in 1892 is 573, as against 245 in 1891. It will be observed that of those registered in 1892 451 were registered during the half year that the Ordinance was in force, against 122 during previous half year.

In view of the fact that the census return, 1891, gave the population of the district as 32,508, the registration of births cannot be regarded as at all satisfactory. I have made inquiries on this subject with the result that I find that many children of Lagos parents are born away from Lagos. Many are born at farms outside the district, and many at towns in the interior. *e.g.*, Abeokuta, Illorin, Ilesha, Porto Novo, &c. and it is extremely difficult to trace them.

Deaths.

Total registered in 1892 is 1,383, as against 1,536 in 1891. I think these figures may be taken to be accurate. 1891 was an exceptionally unhealthy year; no fewer than 129 deaths are in that year attributed to small-pox as against 23 in 1892, while influenza and its after results helped to swell the totals. It will be seen that more than one third of the total number of deaths registered in 1892 were of infants under six years, a very large proportion.

During 1892 eight Europeans died, four being English; in 1891 the same number died, none being English. A separate return is appended.

As to the return of the causes of death, it is necessary to point out that in a very great majority of cases no medical certificate is

available, no medical attendance having been procured; thus, in 169 cases only can absolute confidence be placed in the return of causes, *i.e.*, 63 where medical certificates were given, 16 where inquests were held, and 90 deaths in hospital. It will be a long time before the aboriginal population generally takes to consulting qualified medical men in their ailments. Unless there is a medical certificate, or an inquest, the description of relatives and neighbours has to be taken; if it seems satisfactory the disease is classed, as approximately as may be, from that description; if unsatisfactory I direct inquiries to be made before a certificate of burial is granted, and report to the coroner, who can, if he thinks fit, hold an inquest.

Marriages.

Forty-six were registered in 1892, as against 45 in 1891.

Fees.

The total amount of fees collected in the Registry during 1892 was 303*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*

STATISTICS, 1891.

Births.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Christian.	Mohammedan.	Pagan.	Still-born.	Fees received for Registration.
										£ *s.* *d.*
1891 - -	139	106	245	74	Cannot be ascertained.	138	84	23	—	—

Marriages.

Year.	Number.	Forms of					Buildings licensed for Marriages.	Fees received for registration of Marriages.
		Church Missionary Society.	Wesleyan Missionary Society.	Roman Catholics.	Baptist.	Registry.		
								£ *s.* *d.*
1891 - -	45	23	10	10	2	—	—	37 10 0

Deaths.—Number, Sex, and Ages of Persons registered.

Year.	Males, Deaths under—									Total Males.	Females, Deaths under—									Total Females.	Total Males and Females.	Fees paid for Brick Graves.
	1 Year.	5 Years.	20 Years.	35 Years.	45 Years.	55 Years.	65 Years.	75 Years.	Above 75 Years.		1 Year.	5 Years.	20 Years.	35 Years.	45 Years.	55 Years.	65 Years.	75 Years.	Above 75 Years.			£ s. d.
1891 -	212	119	117	127	78	32	41	37	22	785	172	106	106	117	54	32	59	70	35	751	1,536	69 10 0

Causes of Deaths.

Year.	Deaths in Prison.	Deaths in Colonial Hospital.	No. of Inquests held.	No. of Medical Certificates as to cause of Death.	Fever.	Heart Disease.	Small-pox.	Dysentery.	Lung Diseases	Violence.	Homicide.	Suicide.	Execution.	Other Causes.	Total.
1891 -	2	74	21	—	695	1	129	87	177	7	2	1	1	436	1,536

Other Causes of Deaths (detailed).

Year.	Influenza.	Tetanus.	Piles.	Diarrhœa.	Child Birth.	Dropsy.	Rheumatism.	Natural Causes.	Convulsions.	Debility.	Still Born.	Burns.	Leprosy.	Drowning.	Asthenia.	Abscess.	Dysentery.	Anæmia.	Blackwater Fever.	Apoplexy.	Bright Disease.	Syphilis.	Sores.	Ascites.	Pleuritis.	Total of other Causes.
1891	21	1	7	12	10	8	23	147	185	7	25	1	2	13	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	2	1	436

Table showing number of Deaths of Europeans, Causes, Occupations, &c.

Year.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Causes.					Occupations.										Nationality.			Resident.	Non-resident.
				Fever.	Blackwater Fever.	Suicide.	Total.		Physician.	Schoolmistress.	Teacher.	Mercantile Agent.	Lieut. in German Army.	Commander, Belgian Army.	Sister of Mercy.	Total.	French.	German.	Belgian.		
1891	6	2	8	5	2	1	8		1	1	1	2	1	1	1	8	2	5	1	4	4

LAGOS. 1892.

STATISTICS, 1892.

Births.

Year 1892.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Christian.	Mohammedan.	Pagan.	Still born.	Fees received for Registration.
										£ s. d.
January to June -	71	51	122	94	28	52	59	11	—	—
July to December -	224	227	451	389	62	142	282	27	26	3 8 0
Totals - -	295	278	573	483	90	194	341	38	26	3 8 0

Marriages.

Year 1892.	Number.	Forms of					Buildings Licensed for Marriages.	Fees received for Registration of Marriages.
		Church Missionary Society.	Wesleyan Missionary Society.	Roman Catholics.	Baptist	Registry.		
								£ s. d.
January to June -	17	8	3	5	1	—	—	16 10 0
July to December -	29	22	4	2	1	—	1	24 16 0
Total - -	46	30	7	7	2	—	1	41 6 0

Deaths.—Number, Sex, and Age of Persons registered.

Year 1892.	Males, Deaths under—									Total Males.	Females, Deaths under—									Total Females.	Total Males and Females.	Fees paid for Brick Graves.
	1 Year.	5 Years.	20 Years.	35 Years.	45 Years.	55 Years.	65 Years.	75 Years.	Above 75 Years.		1 Year.	5 Years.	20 Years.	35 Years.	45 Years.	55 Years.	65 Years.	75 Years.	Above 75 Years.			£ s. d.
January to June -	99	49	48	62	42	19	27	22	15	383	98	59	50	49	20	20	35	34	24	397	780	10 0 0
July to December	100	38	22	37	24	24	11	11	15	282	75	38	27	48	20	16	27	36	34	321	603	37 10 0
Total -	199	87	70	99	66	43	38	33	30	665	173	97	77	97	48	36	62	70	58	718	1,383	47 10 0

Table showing Number of Deaths of Europeans, Causes, Occupations, &c.

Year 1892.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Causes.							Occupations.								Nationality.			Resident and Non-Resident.	
				Fever.	Delirium Tremens, &c.	Enteritis.	Apoplexy.	Syncope.	Cardiac failure.	Total.	Captain on board ship.	Foreman of works.	Seaman.	Mercantile agent.	Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools.	Clerk.	Medical doctor.	Total.	English.	French.	German.	Resident.	Non-Resident.
January to June	8	—	8	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	2	—
July to December.	6	—	6	2	—	1	1	1	1	6	—	—	1	2	1	1	1	6	3	1	2	3	3
Total -	8	—	8	3	1	1	1	1	1	8	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	8	4	1	3	5	3

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Causes of Death.

Year 1892.	Deaths in Prison.	Deaths in Colonial Hospital.	No. of Inquests held.	No. of Medical Certificates as to Cause of Death.	Fever.	Heart Disease.	Small-pox.	Dysentery.	Lung Disease.	Violence.	Homicide.	Suicide.	Execution.	Other Causes.	Total.
January to June	1	49	—	—	326	4	22	50	77	5	—	—	—	296	780
July to December	1	41	16	63	200	7	1	23	92	2	2	3	—	274	603
Total -	2	90	—	—	526	11	23	73	169	7	2	3	—	570	1,383

Other causes detailed.

Year 1892.	Influenza.	Tetanus.	Fits.	Diarrhœa.	Child Birth.	Dropsy.	Rheumatism.	Natural Causes.	Convulsions.	Debility.	Still Born.	Burns.	Mania.	Tuberculosis.	Leprosy.	Peritonitis.	Starvation dementia.	Lichtninr.	Nervousness.	Syphilis Dementia.	Gonorrhœa.	Skin Diseases.	Emphysema.	Tubercle of Fever.	Syphilis.	Accident.	Unknown.	Delirium Tremens.	Pain.	Cerebral Meningitis.	Scalding.	Abscess.	Asthenia.	Syncope.	Mitral Incompetence.	Eutentis.	Tonsilitis.	Strangulated Hernia.	Pneumpsia.	Pyæmia.	Albuminuria.	Exhaustion from Starvation.	Apoplexy.	Total of Other Causes.
January to June -	44	4	20	15	10	3	9	109	45	9	17	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	296
July to December -	—	7	—	41	11	15	21	9	102	9	27	1	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	274
Total - -	44	11	20	56	21	18	30	118	147	18	44	2	3	1	3	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	570

The deaths among the white population from 1881 to 1892, with the ages at death, are here specified:—

Year.	Male.		Female.		Total.	Ages.
	Resident.	Visitor.	Resident.	Visitor.		
1881	7	3	0	0	10	23, 27, 40, 46, 56, 32, 50, 36, 30, 31.
1882	3	1	0	0	4	32, 18, 21, 26.
1883	8	3	0	0	11	34, 32, 30, 45, 51, 23, 28, 45, 40, 28, 49.
1884	10	1	0	0	11	33, 40, 47, 29, 22, 41, 4½, 25, 33, 3½, 28.
1885	5	3	0	0	8	33, 34, 45, 35, 40, 27, 40, 40.
1886	7	2	0	0	9	30, 34, 52, 70, 40, 26, 35, 30, 24.
1887	6	3	0	1	10	75, 39, 37, 33, 32, 25, 31, 40, 30, 37.
1888	10	0	1	0	11	37, 35, 32, 65, 24, 31, 33, 29, 48, 41, 25.
1889	9	0	2	0	11	32, 30, 37, 24, 45, 50, 54, 35, 30, 50, 37.
1890	3	1	1	0	5	22, 38, 35, 30, 31.
1891	2	4	2	0	8	33, 21½, 22, 28, 27, 20, 27, 27.
1892	5	3	0	0	8	32, 55, 20, 46, 45, 23, 33, 25.

N.B.—In 1881 the deaths include 1 male Missionary of the C.M.S.

1884.—2 male Roman Catholic Missionaries.

1885.—1 Do. Do.

1886.—1 Colonial Engineer of Lagos.
1 Doctor of s.s. "Fragot."

1887.—1 male Catholic Missionary.
1 Colonial Surgeon of Lagos.
1 Foreman of Works of Lagos.

1888.—1 Gaoler of Lagos.
1 Italian Consul (suicide).
1 male Missionary of the C.M.S.
1 Surveyor-General of Lagos Government.
1 Colonial Engineer.
1 Barrister-at-Law.

1889.—2 Captains of branch steamers of the African Steamship Company.
1 engineer, branch steamer.
1 female Missionary, American Baptist.

1890.—1 captain, German Army.
1 male Missionary, C.M.S.
1 captain, branch steamer.

1891.—1 physician, German Government, from Cameroon.
1 male teacher, German Government, from Cameroon.
1 lieutenant, Imperial German Army.
1 captain of the Artillery, Belgian Army from Congo (suicide).
2 Sisters of Mercy, Roman Catholic Mission.

1892.—1 captain of ship.
1 Foreman of Works (Government.)
1 seaman (French).
2 mercantile agents.
1 H.M. Inspector of Schools.
1 mercantile clerk.
1 doctor, s.s. "Akassa."

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

The total number of prisoners committed during 1892 was 255, as compared with 180 in 1891, 215 in 1890, 328 in 1889, 268 in 1888, 264 in 1887, 262 in 1886, 225 in 1885, 225 in 1884, 274 in 1883, 232 in 1882, 222 in 1881, 351 in 1880, 425 in 1879 and 313 in 1878.

This increase in committals is, to a certain extent, due to the fact that the out-station prisons at Badagry and Leckie were closed by order of the Governor, as being unsuited for the purpose to which they were put. All prisoners, save for short terms of a few days, are consequently now sent to head-quarters.

The recent additions to the jurisdiction of the Colony have also had the effect of increasing the area from which criminals are supplied.

The health of the prisoners was good, one death only being recorded, as against one in 1891, three in 1890, two in 1889, and three in 1888.

The various handicrafts to which the prisoners are trained were carried on with a fair result in the value of the work done as compared with that of the previous five years.

VALUE OF PRISONERS LABOUR FROM 1888 to 1892.

Nature of Labour.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
Out-door Labour.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Public Works Department	73 17 6	21 1 8	18 14 0	70 2 0	35 14 6
Roads, streets, and bridges	138 8 9	158 12 9	165 6 0	83 2 0	86 7 7
Sanitary	104 8 0	81 18 0	41 9 9	49 1 0	74 0 0
Transport	114 15 7	41 11 7	13 1 1½	11 12 3	3 13 0
Miscellaneous	132 1 2	20 18 7	50 18 3	10 15 9	14 14 6
In-door Labour.					
Bricklaying	357 14 6	447 13 6	228 14 6	83 5 0	306 15 0
Bookbinding	50 15 6	73 3 0	88 12 0	208 6 0	61 19 0
Carpentering	106 8 6	88 16 0	67 10 0	69 3 0	52 11 0
Foot-mat and basket making	67 18 6	110 9 6	188 8 0	86 6 0	105 8 0
Rope making	51 15 0	71 17 0	34 11 6	122 13 0	87 16 0
Tailoring	51 7 0	15 13 0	30 4 0	30 0 0	34 19 0
Screen making	—	—	238 2 1	37 2 0	47 1 0
Brush making	—	—	15 7 0		15 9 0
Miscellaneous	132 0 6	202 8 0	282 0 6	206 14 0	388 15 9
Total	1,461 19 6	1,334 2 3	1,462 19 8½	1,079 2 0	1,314 15 4
Cost of Prison	1,891 8 6	1,836 14 4	1,851 7 5	1,828 18 10	1,828 18 5
Deficit	429 9 0	502 12 1	388 7 8½	749 16 10	514 3 1

The attached table shows the nature of the most prevalent offences during the past five years:—

I.—COMPARATIVE TABLE.

Comparative Table showing the Number of Offences, Apprehensions, Convictions, and Acquittals for the last five years.

—	1892.	1891.	1890.	1889.	1888.
Number of offences reported to the police	35	29	51	22	25
Number of persons apprehended by the police, or summoned before the magistrate.	870	634	724	708	728

—	1892.	1891.	1890.	1889.	1888.
Number of summary convictions—					
1. For offences against the person -	60	62	84	86	136
2. For cattle stealing and arson -	20	5	—	10	13
3. For offences against property other than cattle stealing and arson.	87	93	101	81	89
4. For other offences - - -	230	174	212	105	126
Number of convictions in the Superior Courts—					
1. For offences against the person -	34	24	27	23	15
2. For cattle stealing and arson -	—	—	—	1	—
3. For offences against property other than cattle stealing and arson.	30	15	23	19	38
4. For other offences - - -	17	9	14	8	17
The number of persons acquitted—					
1. In the Inferior Courts - -	361	157	180	270	255
2. In the Superior Courts - -	31	17	25	36	26

The following notes on the health of the community have been supplied by the Acting Colonial Surgeon:—

During the year 808 patients were treated in the internal department of the General Hospital, and of these 39 were Europeans and 769 natives; four Europeans and 82 natives died in the hospital, but the total number of deaths in the town of Lagos was eight Europeans and 1,375 natives. Nearly all the fatal cases amongst the European population were due to malarial fever. Amongst the natives the diseases which caused the greatest mortality were those of the respiratory and digestive systems, the most serious disease of the respiratory system being pneumonia; and of the digestive, dysentery. During the early months of the year influenza was present in the Colony and added considerably to the death-rate, which all round was higher than that of the previous year. In the months of November and December there was a great deal of sickness amongst the white residents, and four died in the latter month.

In the Contagious Diseases Hospital, 74 patients were treated, and of these 21 died, 19 deaths being caused by small-pox, which was most prevalent at the beginning of the year.

Vaccination has been well and successfully carried on, 19,534 persons having been operated upon with a satisfactory result in 13,787 cases; although 3,778 did not return, it may be taken that in at least half of these cases the operation was a success.

In addition to the in-patients treated in the General and Contagious Diseases Hospital, 3,678 out-patients received treatment at the General Hospital, and 3,823 at the Ereko Dispensary.

(Signed) ALVAN MILLSON,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

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No. 132.

LAGOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 95.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
March 1895.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	„
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	„
107	Hong Kong	„
108	St. Vincent	„
109	Gibraltar	„
110	Bahamas	„
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	„
112	Leeward Islands	„
113	Barbados	„
114	Malta	„
115	Zululand	„
116	British Honduras	„
117	Trinidad and Tobago	„
118	Falkland Islands	„
119	Rodrigues	„
120	Mauritius	„
121	Straits Settlements	„
122	Labuan	„
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	„
126	Ceylon	„
127	Fiji	„
128	Grenada	„
129	Sierra Leone	„
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 & 1893–4

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 132.

LAGOS.

[For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 95.]

Sir G. T. CARTER to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Lagos,
December 18, 1894.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book Returns for the year 1893, and beg to offer the following remarks thereon:

TAXES.

2. There has been no alteration in the Tariff as detailed in the Report for 1892.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

3. The estimated Revenue for 1893 amounted to 92,730*l.* and that actually collected to 115,317*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* shewing an excess of 22,587*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*

4. This result is mainly owing to the Customs collections having realized the sum of 104,202*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*, consequent upon a general increase of trade, whereas they were only estimated to produce 85,000*l.*

5. This gratifying result is unquestionably due mainly to the action taken by the Government in compelling the Jebus to open their roads to the Hinterland, and to the success of the Governor's subsequent Mission to the Interior, details of which have already been published in Blue Book (C. 7,227) 1893.

6. In order to show the marked improvement in the revenue of 1893, as compared with that of 1892, it will be interesting to append a statement showing the collections under the various heads for the years in question, though a portion of the increase must be attributed to the fact that in June 1892, an additional

duty of 4*d.* per gallon was imposed upon spirits, as well as an increase of ½*d.* per pound upon tobacco.

Head of Estimate.	1892.	1893.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Customs - - -	58,476 9 9	104,202 16 9	45,726 7 0	—
Harbour and Lightaouse Dues.	1,878 15 5	740 4 6	—	1,138 10 11
Licences, &c. - - -	2,461 6 1	3,279 12 3	818 6 2	—
Fees, Reimbursements, &c.	1,987 4 4	2,575 5 11	588 1 7	—
Postal Revenue - -	1,183 12 11	1,425 7 7	241 14 8	—
Rent of Government Property.	256 0 11	325 0 9	68 19 10	—
Interest on Investments -	1,414 11 11	1,728 7 4	313 15 5	—
Miscellaneous - -	746 8 0	975 19 7	229 11 7	—
Land Sales - -	17 0 0	64 14 10	47 14 10	—
	68,421 9 4	115,317 9 6	48,034 11 1	1,138 10 11

7. It will be observed that the only item which shows a decrease is that under the heading of "Harbour and Light Dues." This falling off, however, is owing to the abolition of the Wharfage Dues, which took effect from June 1893, when the additional duty was placed upon Spirits. To counterbalance the withdrawal of this duty, an additional 1 per cent. was placed on the *ad valorem* duty, raising this impost to 5 per cent.

Expenditure.

8. The estimated expenditure for the year 1893 amounted to 101,320*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.*, and the sum actually disbursed to 101,251*l.* 5*s.*, showing a saving of 69*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*

9. The statement of Assets and Liabilities on the 31st December, 1893, shows a balance in favour of the Colony of 36,670*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* as compared with a balance of 22,604*l.* at the close of 1892.

CONSTABULARY.

10. At the end of the year the Constabulary Force consisted of 563 men, this number being only four short of the full complement. One hundred and twenty-four men were recruited during the year, and, on the whole, the men obtained were of good physique, and were genuine Houssas.

11. The total cost of the force for the year amounted to 20,937*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*, as compared with 14,926*l.* for the previous year.

12. It was decided in 1892 to raise the Houssa force from 250 to 500 non-commissioned officers and men, and the Civil Police from 170 to 220 non-commissioned officers and men—hence the large increase in the expenditure.

PUBLIC WORKS.

13. The estimated expenditure under the head of "Public Works annually recurrent" amounted to 4,670*l.*, and that actually expended to 4,254*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.*, showing a saving of 415*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*

14. The total vote for "Public Works Extraordinary" amounted to 20,537*l.*, and the sum actually expended to 13,002*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*, leaving an unexpended balance of 7,534*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*, mainly owing to the absence of any expenditure on the proposed new Hospital.

15. Many important Public Works were proceeded with during the year, including a new Government House, more Officers' Quarters, and an extensive Customs Warehouse. The new Public Buildings in Lagos are all substantial brick structures, well cemented on the outside, and calculated to last.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Imports.

16. The general imports into the Colony for the year show a very marked increase in value as compared with the returns for any other year in the history of the Colony, the total amounting to 749,027*l.*, the year 1891 showing the next largest total value, viz.: 607,719*l.*; previous to that year the general imports had never reached a value of 600,000*l.*, the lowest for the previous ten years being 357,831*l.* in 1886, and the highest 542,564*l.* in 1885.

Exports.

17. The general exports show a corresponding increase, the total value amounting to 836,295*l.*; the year 1891, as in the case of the Imports, showing the next largest value, viz.:—717,643*l.* The previous records for the last ten years show the worst year to be 1887, with a total value of 491,469*l.*, and the next best to the present year to be the year 1884, with a total value of 672,414*l.*

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

18. The undermentioned table exhibits a comparison between the statistics of the gaol for the years 1892–3, and calls for no special remark except that the number of punishments shews a very marked decrease in favour of the year 1893.

Statistics for the Prison, 1892 and 1893.

—	Admissions.	Discharges.	Deaths.	Escapes.	Executions.	Prisoners Earnings. Indoor Labour.
						£ s. d.
1892 -	261	209	1	2	Nil.	1,052 8 2
1893 -	302	291	5	1	Nil.	1,033 0 6
Increase -	41	82	4	—	—	—
Decrease -	—	—	—	1	—	19 7 8

(*continued*)

—	Prisoners' Earnings. Outdoor Labour	Punishments.	Re-captured Prisoners.	Staff.	Sittings of Visiting Committee.	Number of Cells.
	£ s. d.					
1892 -	213 17 6	421	1	16	2	131
1893 -	200 16 1	256	1	19	2	137
Increase -	—	—	—	3	—	6
Decrease -	13 1 5	165	—	—	—	—

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

19. The Chief Justice has favoured me with the accompanying interesting record of the business transacted in the District Court and in the Supreme Court at Lagos, embracing the years from 1886 to 1893. While, on the one hand, the criminal charges show no tendency to increase, on the other, the civil cases dealt with in 1893 exhibit a marked increase, both in the District and in the Supreme Courts, the civil suits in the former court amounting to 812 in 1893, as compared with 270 in 1886, and in the latter court amounting to 200 in 1893, as compared with 86 in 1886.

Statistics of Central District, 1886–1893.

Year.	Civil Suits.	Judgment Summonses.	Criminal Charges.	Total.	Inquests.
1886 - -	270	4	450	724	34
1887 - -	286	7	509	802	26
1888 - -	261	17	410	688	24
1889 - -	368	35	382	785	13
1890 - -	365	66	464	895	21
1891 - -	482	107	353	942	21
1892 - -	566	161	442	1,169	19
1893 -	812	208	417	1,437	21

In the Supreme Court of the Colony of Lagos.

Statistics, 1886 to 1893.

Year.	Suits.	Judgment Summonses, Interpleader Summonses, and Garnishee Summonses.	Motions.	Probates and Letters of Administration.	Total of Civil Cases.	Criminal Assizes.	
						Number of Cases tried.	Number of prisoners arraigned.
1886	86	4	25	23	138	76	104
1887	128	17	27	37	209	75	115
1888	107	18	41	30	196	76	104
1889	120	48	54	27	249	51	96
1890	111	43	31	39	224	91	104
1891	140	46	34	36	256	51	69
1892	160	65	45	41	311	64	117
1893	200	92	86	137	515	58	113

HOSPITALS.

20. The subjoined remarks in regard to the Hospital statistics for the year 1893, have been supplied by the Colonial Surgeon.

21. "The year 1893 cannot be considered satisfactory from a sanitary point of view; there was no epidemic disease, but the number of deaths amongst the European population amounted to 17, which is the highest death-rate recorded for the last 10 years, the lowest being 5 in 1890, and the highest 11 in the years 1883, 1884, 1888, and 1889. The number of deaths registered amongst the Natives amounting to 1387, as against 1383 in the year 1892. The statistics of Native deaths, however, cannot be relied upon during the years previous to the introduction of the Registration Ordinance, No. 5 of 1889.

"During the year 1893, 846 in-patients were treated at the hospitals, 48 of whom suffered from an infectious disease and were located in the Contagious Diseases Hospital. The daily average of in-patients was 47·7.

"Of those treated in the general hospital 88, or 11·03 per cent. died, and of the 48 in the Contagious Diseases Hospital, 10 or 20·8 per cent. This death-rate is exceedingly high, as the majority of the cases treated were of a trivial character. This can, however, be accounted for in a measure by the fact that many of the patients were moribund when admitted, being, in fact, aged starved paupers.

"Fifty-nine Europeans were admitted as in-patients during the year, forty-three of whom were suffering from malarial fevers. Three of these died.

"In addition to those receiving treatment in the intern department of the General Hospital, 5,329 out-patients were treated in the extern, and 4,093 at Ereko dispensary. Vaccination was

LAGOS. 1893.

carried out as usual, the one public vaccinator being employed solely at this work, with the result that 18,754 persons were operated on, 11,045 of whom were known to be successfully vaccinated. Thirteen lepers had a more or less prolonged residence in the Contagious Diseases Hospital. The number of persons infected with this disease is increasing year by year."

EDUCATION.

22. During the year the number of assisted schools in the Colony has risen from 30 to 33, and the number of separate departments in connection with the schools from 57 to 62.

23. The number of children on the registers of the inspected schools of the various denominations is as hereunder :—

Denomination.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Percentage.
Anglican - - -	1,072	677	1,749	53
Wesleyan - - -	365	168	533	16
Roman Catholic - -	366	362	728	22
United Native African - -	255	50	305	9
Total - - -	2,058	1,257	3,315	100

24. In the preceding year the total number on the registers was 1,845 boys and 1,146 girls = 2,991. There is thus a large increase of 324 children in the assisted schools in the Colony. The main source of the increase is the United Native African School, which was admitted in the number of assisted schools late in the year, and contained no less than 305 children on its register.

25. The distribution of the school children according to religion stands as follows :—

Religion.	Number of School Children.	Percentage of Total Number on Registers.
Christians - - - -	2,348	70·82 (72·4)
Mahommedans - - -	412	12·43 (12·1)
Pagans - - - -	555	16·74 (15·5)

The figures within brackets show the percentages in the preceding year.

26. From the above pe rs that the increase on the number of childre hools has been chiefly drawn from the Mo ions of the commu , but more from mmedans. We have hence forth te le community for any l the future.

e Colony during the year under review ..edan Koranic schools, with about 1,400 children in regular attendance, and it is much to be desired that the Lagos Muslims could be brought to see the advantages of introducing English subjects into their school system—there are however not wanting signs of a removal of the prejudice which formerly existed in regard to this question, and in time no doubt they will see the advantage of bringing their schools under the operation of the Education Ordinance.

28. The financial status of the assisted schools of the different religious denominations is shown below :—

Denomination.	Income.	Expenditure.	Government Grant.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Anglican - - -	2,637 5 5¾	1,998 0 5	540 7 4
Wesleyan - - -	773 15 10	738 18 1	200 2 1
Roman Catholic - -	1,255 13 8	2,777 6 10½	453 12 5
Total - £	4,666 14 11¾	5,514 5 4½	1,194 1 10

29. The excess of expenditure over income is all on the side of the Roman Catholic schools; this deficit is due to expenditure incurred on buildings and the salaries of White teachers, while only 45*l.* was received as school fees from 728 children.

30. There is as yet no adequate provision for filling up the waste in the staff of teachers in the schools, and, indeed, there is great need for teachers of higher intellectual and professional attainments.

31. The fifth annual competitive exhibition of school work was successfully held on the 16th December, 1893. The exhibits were fewer in number than usual, but the standard of quality was fully maintained.

32. Industrial instruction is given at St. Mary's Convent in the form of domestic economy, and includes plain needle-work, fancy needle-work, cutting-out, washing, ironing, &c.; some such work is also done in the girls' department at Topo, and cocoanut planting, together with gardening, is the only industry taught in the boys' department of the same place.

LAGOS. 1893.

33. It is hoped tha' ments will be completed
working a Gover me in connexion with
Hussey Charity about 500*l.* a year
from trust funds.

G

34. The condition of the Colony ...
has afforded an ample justification for the acti...
carried out under the present administration. There ...
no serious complications with the Native Tribes, and there has been a steady flow of trade to the large markets, consequent upon increased security to Natives bringing down their produce.

35. The Jebu Expedition struck a very severe blow to the slave trade, and, at the time I write, slave-raiding has practically been extinguished in the Yoruba Country. Although it will be anticipating matters somewhat, it will not be out of place to record here that this result has been mainly due to the presence of European Officers in command of detachments of Houssas at Jebu Ode, Ibadan, and Sagamu, whose duty it is to see that peaceable traders are not molested on their way to the Lagoon markets.

36. The Treaty negotiated with the Egbas has so far been loyally kept, and the relations between Lagos and Abeokuta continue to be of a most cordial and friendly character. It has not been found necessary to place a European Resident in the Egba Country, but an intelligent Native resides at Abeokuta and acts as the medium between the two Governments, so far to the satisfaction of both parties. The Egbas have an intense desire to maintain their independence, and now that the ice has been broken and the Governor of Lagos is a welcome visitor to Abeokuta, I do not think any trouble is likely to arise that could not be removed by a personal visit, should the matter be of sufficient importance to justify such a step. There is no question, however, that the occasional appearance of the Governor in the more important interior towns will always be an important factor in the maintenance of peace and that cordial relationship between the Lagos and the Native Governments which is so essential to the commercial interests and general development of the Colony.

I have, &c.

G. T. CARTER,
Governor.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 150.

LAGOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

[For Report for 1893 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 132.]

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1896.

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1896.

[C.—7944.-2.] *Price* ½*d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
118	Falkland Islands	1893
119	Rodrigues	,,
120	Mauritius	,,
121	Straits Settlements	,,
122	Labuan	,,
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	,,
126	Ceylon	,,
127	Fiji	,,
128	Grenada	,,
129	Sierra Leone	,,
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3& 1893–94
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–94
134	Jamaica	,,
135	Newfoundland	1893
136	Gold Coast	,,
137	Zululand	1894
138	Bermuda	,,
139	Bahamas	,,
140	Barbados	,,
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
142	Malta	,,
143	Gambia	,,
144	Windward Islands	,,
145	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
146	Gibraltar	,,
147	Falkland Islands	,,
148	Hong Kong	,,
149	Straits Settlements	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 150.

LAGOS.

[For Report for 1893 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 132.]

Acting-Governor DENTON to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Lagos,
August 27, 1895.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward six copies of the Blue Book for the year 1894, together with a report on its contents by the Acting Colonial Secretary, Mr. Haddon-Smith.

I have, &c.
GEORGE C. DENTON.

Colonial Secretariat, Lagos,
West Coast of Africa,
August 23, 1895.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1894.

REVENUE.

The revenue of the year 1894 was raised from the same sources as in 1893, without any alteration in the tariff. It amounted to 137,017*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* as compared with 115,317*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* in 1893, showing an increase of 21,699*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.* Customs receipts showed an increase in 1894 of 15,590*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*, as compared with the previous year,and licenses showed an increase of 5,206*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*

EXPENDITURE.

The estimated expenditure for 1894 amounted to 106,825*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*, an the sum actually disbursed to 124,829*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.*, showing an excess of 18,004*l.* 5*s.* 0*d.* This excess was mainly due to expenditure in public works, also to the large increase of the constabulary force, which was found essential, owing to the active interior policy pursued which has necessitated the establishment of military posts in the Hinterland; notwithstanding the increased expenditure, there still remained a surplus of 12,187*l.* 15*s.*

The statement of assets and liabilities on the 31st December 1894 shows a balance in favour of the Colony of 48,857*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.* as compared with a balance of 36,670*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* at the close of

1893, and a difference in favour of the Colony of 26,253*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.* since the year 1892.

DEFENCES.

There are no Imperial troops stationed in the Colony, but there is an armed force composed of both infantry and artillery and recruited from the Houssa tribe; this force is officered from the regular army and militia, and is armed with Sniders, Maxims, Nordenfelts, and 7-pounders. The total strength of the force on 31st December 1894 was 743. The civil police, which at the end of 1894 was 223 strong, being only one short of its full complement, is also drilled and armed with the Snider; the total cost of both forces in 1894 was 24,761*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.*, being an increase of 3,824*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.* on the previous year.

Her Majesty's ships of the Cape and West African squadron occasionally visit Lagos, but owing to the shallowness of the bar H.M.S. "Alecto" is the only ship able to enter the harbour.

The Colony has an armed stern-wheeler which is useful for river work; her draft is 3 feet.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The estimated expenditure under the head of Public Works annually recurrent amounted to 8,035*l.*, and that actually expended to 4,124*l.* 12*s.*, showing a saving of 3,910*l.* 8*s.*

The total vote for "Public Works Extraordinary" amounted to 27,140*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.* and the sum actually expended to 35,925*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.*, showing an excess of 8,784*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*; this is attributable to extra officers' quarters and an excess on Government House, which was occupied before the 31st December 1894.

An amount of 4,907*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.* was spent on roads to the interior, and opening up and clearing waterways. There are now two good roads from the Ejinrin and Epe markets on the lagoon to Jebu Ode, the total distance of both roads being 41 miles (19 and 22); it is possible to use carriages on both roads, and considering that two years ago they were simply ruts and most difficult for pedestrians it shows the advance that has been made in this direction since the Jebu War of 1892.

The Yewa River in the Western District, on the banks of which coffee plantations have been established, has been so cleaned that it is possible for launches to go where two years ago canoes were unable to be used owing to the thick growth of weed on the water.

IMPORTS.

The general imports into the Colony for the year show a slight decrease in value as compared with the returns for 1893, but this is not surprising, considering 1893 was an exceptional year owing to the stoppage of trade in 1892 through hostilities with the neighbouring tribes which necessitated merchants cancelling

the usual supply of goods from Europe. In 1894 the total value of imports amounted to 744,561*l.* as compared with 749,027*l.* in 1893, showing a decrease of 4,466*l.*, but the customs duties show an increase, in 1894, of 15,590*l.* as compared with 1893.

EXPORTS.

The general exports also show a slight decrease. In 1893 the total value was 836,295*l.*, while in 1894 it had fallen to 821,682*l.*, thus showing a falling off of 14,613*l.* This decrease can be attributed to the same cause as is urged in the preceding paragraph with regard to exports. The reason for it is to be found in the fact that in 1892 the traders were unable to bring their produce to the markets owing to the insecurity of the roads; no sooner was peace established than the roads were open for traffic, and the accumulation of produce was brought to the Colony; for this cause the returns for 1893 may be taken as above the average, while the figures of 1894 may well be reckoned as a fair criterion of the year's export without any unusual stimulus.

SHIPPING.

The total number of vessels entered and cleared during the year 1893 was 862, with a tonnage of 694,840; out of this number 486 were British, with a tonnage of 526,032. The total number of vessels entered and cleared during the year 1894 was 889, with a tonnage of 757,701; this included ten sailing ships and 879 steamers. Out of this number 505 were British, with a tonnage of 560,983.

AGRICULTURE.

Among the agricultural industries which appear to be of steadily growing promise may be mentioned the cultivation of coffee, cocoa, and kola. The collection of rubber is largely on the increase and this industry gives promise of assuming very large dimensions.

PRISON.

The admissions into the prison in 1894 were 272 or 30 less than in 1893, the discharges numbered 290 as compared with 291 in 1893; there were no executions in either year; considering that the Colony has been considerably increased these figures are satisfactory. Doubtless the system of solitary confinement has a deterrent effect upon the criminal class of the population who in previous years thought it no hardship to undergo terms of imprisonment.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The criminal statistics for the year show exactly the same number of convictions, viz: 513 as in 1893, and considering the

additional territory which has been taken into the Colony this is most gratifying, and proves that crime is on the decrease. The chief offence was larceny, under which heading there were 113 convictions as compared with 133 in 1893; cases of fighting and disturbance in the street amounted to 100. There were only 2 cases of slavedealing as compared with six in the previous year, and only three cases of drunkenness. Considering that in the Island of Lagos alone the population is over 33,000, this clearly proves that drunkenness in this part of Africa is uncommon, and that there is insufficient evidence for the contention which is advanced that the native is being ruined by what is so often spoken of as the heinous gin traffic; it is a well-known fact by those in a position best able to judge, by long residence, that the inhabitants of this country have a natural repugnance to intemperance.

POPULATION.

The population of the Island of Lagos at the last census in 1891 was 33,000. It is impossible to state accurately the population of the Colony, as, owing to the addition of territory since that year, the numbers have considerably increased; moreover, as the Births, Deaths, and Marriage Ordinance has not been put into operation in the districts, no estimate can be formed except in the year the census was taken. The figures hereafter given refer only to Lagos Island.

The number of births registered during the year is 1,197, against 1,034 in 1893; of the 1,197 registered there appear 310 of Christian, 762 of Mahommedan, and 125 of Pagan parentage; of the above number 207 are registered as illegitimate, an increase of 27; considering the law recognises marriage by native custom this figure is high.

There were 43 marriages registered as having taken place in Christian places of worship, being two less than in 1893.

The total number of deaths amounted to 1,487, against 1,387 in 1893; this gives a rate of 44 per 1,000 as against an average death rate in England of 19·14 per 1,000. Fever claims the greater number of victims, viz., 471; dysentery, 96 as against 47 in the year 1893; and lung diseases, 261; this last ailment is attributable to the heavy rains in this part of the country and the very low-lying land. The inhabitants chiefly sleep on the ground, and very few of the houses have raised floors; considering the rainfall in the year was 70·1 inches, the month of June alone scoring 31·03, the moisture of the soil can well be imagined.

The death rate among Europeans during the year is by far the heaviest on record, viz., 23 as compared with 17 in the year 1893; this, out of an estimated population of 150, being nearly 16 per cent. or 154 per 1,000 against 19·5 in England, can only be termed appalling, and clearly shows that this part of Africa is still unfortunately entitled to be termed "the white man's grave."

EDUCATION.

The number of assisted schools in the Colony is 33, the same as last year; there are 55 departments in the schools, viz., 24 infant, 24 primary, 2 secondary, and 5 industrial.

The number of children on the registers of the inspected schools are as follows: Anglican, 1818; Wesleyan, 643; Roman Catholic, 707; United Native African, 140; the Anglican having a percentage of 54·96, which is the largest, and the United Native African the smallest, viz., 4·23.

In 1893 the total number attending the schools was 3,315, which shows a decrease of seven for this year; the United Native African School which had a total last year, the first year of its existence, of 305 has only 140 on its rolls this year, or a decrease of 165.

The distribution of the school children according to religion stands as follows: Christians, 2,374, showing an increase of 26; Mahommedans, 442, an increase of 30 as compared with last year; Pagans, 492, a decrease of 63 as compared with 1893.

The Mahommedans are still opposed to having their schools under the operation of the Education Ordinance; not only have those in power used every argument to prove to them the advantages that would accrue to the children now attending Koranic schools if they consented to accept European forms of education in those schools, but the Sultan of Turkey, in the month of July, addressed a letter to the Moslems of Lagos urging them to provide instruction in western learning for the rising Moslem generation; the truth is, the older men are afraid of their sons becoming more learned than they are, and that is openly stated as the reason of their objecting to the Koranic schools being improved by the introduction of English subjects.

The total income of the assisted schools is 5,339*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*, and the expenditure 5,399*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.*, or an excess of 60*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* which is wholly on the side of the Roman Catholic schools; this is due to the smallness of fees received notwithstanding the good attendance.

The Government grant for the year amounted to 1,064*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*, a decrease of 129*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.* as compared with 1893.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The year 1894 can well be described as a year of prosperity and progress, and fully justifies the active policy pursued in the Hinterland of the Colony; the whole of Yorubaland is now reaping the benefits which accrue from peace, the result being a steady flow of trade from the interior to the large markets of the Colony.

The relations existing between this Colony and the adjacent tribes are of a most friendly nature. In January a treaty was signed with the Egbas defining the boundary between their

Lagos. 1894.

country and the Colony; in November Her Majesty assumed Sovereign rights over certain territories ceded to the Colony by the Chiefs of Jebu, and Jebu Remo, and a Protectorate was also proclaimed over the whole of the latter territory.

During the year an officer was appointed Resident of Ibadan, the most important town of Yoruba-land, having a population of over 150,000; a force of Houssas, under two European officers, has also been stationed at Odo Otin, which is the boundary between the Ilorin and Ibadan tribes and is distant about 80 miles from the River Niger.

The establishment of military posts in the interior under command of European officers has resulted in the total collapse of the slave trade, and has given security to those using the trade routes.

A range of mountains, the highest point being 4,700 feet, was discovered by Sir G. Carter in the Idanre country; their distance from the lagoon as the crow flies is reckoned at 50 miles, and from the capital of the Colony approximately 120 miles.

I have, &c.
G. B. HADDON-SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency,
The Acting Governor,
Lagos.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 185.

LAGOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, *see* No. 150 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
December 1896.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
154	St. Helena	1894
155	Ceylon	"
156	Mauritius	"
157	Labuan	"
158	Gold Coast	"
159	British Guiana	"
160	Sierra Leone	"
161	Jamaica	1894–95
162	British Honduras	1894
163	British Bechuanaland	1894–95
164	Newfoundland	1894
165	Gambia	"
166	Bermuda	"
167	Leeward Islands	"
168	British New Guinea	1894–95
169	Zululand	1895
170	Sierra Leone	"
171	Gibraltar	"
172	Malta	"
173	Barbados	"
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
175	Falkland Islands	"
176	St. Helena	"
177	Bahamas	"
178	Hong Kong	"
179	Windward Islands	"
180	Labuan	"
181	Trinidad and Tobago	"
182	Seychelles	"
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues	1894–95
184	British Honduras	1895

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.

No. 185.

LAGOS.

(For Report for 1894, *see* No. 150.)

The ACTING GOVERNOR to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Lagos,
October 10, 1896.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward a report, prepared by myself when acting as Colonial Secretary, on the contents of the Blue Book for 1895.

I have, &c.
FRANK ROHRWEGER.

REVENUE.

The revenue from all sources for 1895 amounted to 142,049*l.*, as against 137,017*l.* in 1894, an increase of a little over 5,000*l.*, due for the most part to customs' receipts. It is too early yet to estimate the effect which the doubling of the spirit duty may have on the revenue, as the Ordinance providing for that important change only came into operation late in the year. It is probable that the trade in spirits will be diverted, rather than checked, by the increased duty.

The apparent decrease of 2,352*l.* for "Licences and Internal Revenue" is due to the fact that liquor licences for 1895 were taken out, and the proceeds carried to account, in 1894.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure during the year amounted to 144,484*l.*, as against 124,829*l.* in 1894. The Departments principally responsible for this increase were Government vessels (two new steam launches, with additional expense for increased staff, fuel, and upkeep), the Medical Department (the staff of which it was found necessary considerably to increase), Transport (owing in a great measure to the necessity of constant communication with the distant military posts in the interior), and Public Works, under which heading has been included a sum of 7,000*l.* expended in connexion with the iron bridges now being constructed to Iddo Island and the mainland.

LAGOS. 1895.

The statement of assets and liabilities shows a balance in favour of the Colony of 46,423*l.* on the 31st of December 1895, as against 48,858*l.* on December 31st, 1894.

SAVINGS BANK.

Depositors in the Government Savings Bank numbered 543 on December 31st, 1895, as against 416 on the last day of 1894, a most satisfactory increase, indicating amongst other things that the schoolmaster is abroad.

The Savings Bank, which is under the management and control of the Colonial Treasurer, allows interest at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum, and the deposits during the year amounted to 7,157*l.*

DEFENCES.

The Lagos Constabulary during the year under review was divided into the armed Houssa Constabulary and the civil police, both being under the command of an inspector-general assisted by two inspectors and seven assistant inspectors. The armed constabulary numbered 577 of all ranks, with 150 reserve, and were armed with Snider B. L. rifles. In addition to these, the force possessed five 7-pr. M. L. R. steel guns, one rocket trough, one·3 quick-firing Nordenfeldt, one 0·45 Gatling gun, three Maxim guns, two three-barrel Nordenfeldts ·50. The civil police numbered 212, and the water police 12. The sum expended on the maintenance of the entire force during 1895 amounted to 26,291*l.* Late in the year a detachment of 100 men, under Inspector Tucker and Assistant-Inspector Humfrey, was "lent" to the Gold Coast Government and assisted in the operations against Kumassi. With the year 1895, the "Lagos Constabulary," as such, ceased to exist. Two separate and distinct corps, the one purely military, known as the "Houssa Force," under the Inspector-General, the other purely civil, known as the "Civil Police," under a newly-created commissioner of police, were organised in its place. The result of the change cannot be dealt with in this report. It is in contemplation to re-arm the Houssa force with the Martini-Metford carbine, the discarded Sniders being handed over to the civil police for use in cases of emergency.

The "Margaret," an armed shallow-draft stern-wheeler, specially adapted for service on the lagoons, represents the floating defence of the Colony, but her state of repair will render it necessary that further provision should be made for this service in the immediate future.

Of Her Majesty's ships on the West African station, the "Alecto" alone was able to cross Lagos Bar.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The close of the year 1895 saw the commencement of the most important public works ever undertaken by the Lagos Government, the construction of the "Carter-Denton' bridges,

connecting the Island of Lagos with Iddo Island, and Iddo with the mainland, and the building of a railway, the first section of which will run to Otta, a distance of about 20 miles. The cost of this work will be met by a Government loan, and it is confidently anticipated that the growing prosperity of the Colony, as shown by the published statistics, will enable such a loan to be raised on easy terms. The facilities offered by a railway, both for the development of trade and for Government purposes, can hardly be overrated in such a Colony as Lagos, where carts and cartroads are unknown, rivers are open for a few months in the year only, and the rich produce of the interior must still be carried to the coast in 40 or 50 lb. loads on the heads of natives, a method of transport as costly as it is primitive.

The building of what were known as "Temporary Hospital Huts" was proceeded with during the year on a site acquired by Government on the Marina, formerly occupied by the premises of Messrs. Regis Aîné, the old Colonial hospital being in a dilapidated condition and inconveniently situated at the back of new Government House. The huts or bungalows when sent out from England were found, on their erection, to be so well adapted for the purpose for which they were intended, that it is now proposed to let them stand as permanent buildings, and to provide a main or central building on the same light lines in place of the more solid structure originally designed.

A brick house has been erected at the back of the Public Works Department for the reception of the ice-machine and engine.

Additional customs' warehouse accommodation to meet the growing wants of the Colony was commenced in May, and the work was being proceeded with at the close of the year. A new Post Office, commenced about the same time, was approaching completion on the 31st of December.

The extension of the prison, and the provision of new court houses for Ikorodu and Epe, and new quarters for the Resident at Ibadan, were amongst the other works commenced during a very busy year, and not completed before 1896.

In view of the growing importance and magnitude of the works undertaken by the Public Works Department, it was thought desirable to augment the staff, and an officer under the name of "Director of Public Works" was selected to take supreme charge of the Department. At the close of the year, however, he had not arrived in the Colony.

IMPORTS.

The total value in sterling of the Imports into the Colony during the year 1895 amounted to 815,815*l.*, 605,464*l.* coming from the United Kingdom, and 175,669*l.* from Germany. The value of imports in 1894 amounted to 744,561*l.*, showing an increase of 71,254*l.* Spirits (Geneva) fell from 82,457*l.* in 1894 to 65,455*l.* in 1895 (the duty was doubled by Ordinance of the 12th October), cotton goods from 279,433*l.* in 1894 to 255,059*l.* in 1895, and a decrease was noted in the importation of haberdashery, earthenware,

Lagos. 1895.

and kolah nuts (which fell from 25,889*l.* in 1894 to 18,901*l.* in 1895). The articles which show the largest increase are tobacco, which rose from 15,871*l.* in 1894 to 20,037*l.* in 1895; shooks, 14,919*l.* in 1894 to 18,909*l.* in 1895; and silver (specie), the importation of which increased from 36,036*l.* in 1894 to no less than 172,548*l.* in 1895. This increase was no doubt indirectly due to the rise of the rubber industry herein-after mentioned.

Exports.

The exports for the year 1895, including not only produce from the Colony, but also British and foreign produce and manufactures, showed the large increase of 163,913*l.*; the figures being 985,595*l.* as against 821,682*l.* in 1894. An increase in the export of palm oil to Germany to the value of 17,626*l.* partly accounts for this; but by far the most important factor is the extraordinary development of the rubber industry, the statistics of which are almost incredible. On the Gold Coast we are told that the export of rubber, which in 1882 was *nil*, had attained in 1893 to the annual value of 200,000*l.* Lagos, in 1894, shipped 5,723 lbs. of rubber to Great Britain, and 144 lbs. to Germany—in all 5,867 lbs., of the value of 324*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.* In 1895 these figures rose to no less than 5,069,576 lbs., of a total sterling value of 269,893*l.*

So far back as 1882, Sir Alfred Moloney, K.C.M.G., to whom is due the credit of starting the industry on the Gold Coast, had suggested the possibility of a similar industry in Lagos, but it was not until 1894 that any progress became apparent. In that year the Governor of Lagos, Sir Gilbert Carter, K.C.M.G., issued the following notice:—

"His Excellency the Governor desires to notify to the mercantile community of Lagos that he has been able to induce a party of natives from the Gold Coast, experienced in rubber collecting, to come to Lagos, with a view to the development of this valuable and important industry. The men have already inspected certain districts, which they report to be rich in rubber-producing plants, and it is confidently hoped that Lagos will shortly be able to compete with the sister Colony of the Gold Coast in the great export of the product."

This confident hope was quickly justified. Merchants took up the idea with enthusiasm. With startling suddenness the easy-going native awoke to the fact that wealth, easily acquired, abounded in the forests round him, and learnt for the first time that in sitting under his own fig tree he had been unconsciously reposing in the shade of the family bank.

There is, unhappily, reason to fear that the usual result may follow this sudden discovery. Already there seem to be grounds for the belief that, in so far as the term "rubber industry" implies the intelligent growth and cultivation of the plant for profit, it conveys a false impression of the methods in vogue in the interior.

Judicious "tapping," with due regard to the life of the tree, and its future usefulness, is the exception; rubber-bearing trees

are ruthlessly sacrificed by irresponsible seekers after wealth, and dead trunks are becoming a too familiar feature in the landscape of the productive districts. Sooner or later a purely destructive policy of this kind must exhaust the richest country; adventurers will have to stray further afield, and the cost of transport will equal or exceed the value of the article.*

SHIPPING.

The total number of steam vessels entered and cleared at Lagos during the year 1895 was 908, with a tonnage of 787,285. As compared with 1894 these figures indicate an increase of 29 steamers and a tonnage of about 30,000. Of the whole number, 688 steamers with a tonnage of 636,610, were British, the remainder being, with the exception of two vessels under the Belgian flag, and one small French boat, exclusively German.

One sailing vessel from the Brazils arrived during the year.

NEWSPAPERS.

The Government Gazette, containing the official record of appointments, Ordinances, proclamations, &c., is published monthly from the Secretariat. 3,000 copies were issued during the year 1895.

There are three weekly papers issued by private enterprise—the "Lagos Weekly Record," the "Lagos Standard," and the "Lagos Echo." The number of copies sold is returned—by the editors,—as

"Record" - - - -	25,800
"Standard" (Sept. to Dec.) - -	15,600
"Echo" - - - -	24,960

AGRICULTURE.

The cultivation of coffee is still in its infancy in the Colony, but the Ilaro Plantation Company are continuing their operations with every prospect of success. The variety principally cultivated is the Liberian, but a few Arabian trees are being raised experimentally. The managers of the Ilaro Company report that they have 150 acres planted with 50,000 coffee and 6,000 cocoa plants, while the Ajilete Company have over 60,000 of the former and are also turning their attention to the cultivation of cocoa and kolah nuts.

A few yam or cassava farms surround almost every native village, but it is impossible to estimate the acreage so cultivated. Incidentally these small plots, in conjunction with a very nasty smell, serve the useful purpose of announcing to the traveller the proximity of human habitations.

* A very interesting article on the rise of the Lagos rubber industry, together with an account of the process of preparation, and a highly technical description of the tree principally utilised, known to the natives as "Ire" and to botanists as the "Kickxia Africana," appeared in the Kew Bulletin for October 1895, to which Journal the curious and learned are referred.

Besides the all-important palm oil and kernels, kolah nuts, beniseed, ground nuts, and piassava are among the produce cultivated in the Colony.

PRISON.

There is one large and well-appointed central prison in Lagos. Prisoners, whether convicted or committed for trial, being sent there from the districts under escort. The daily average number of prisoners is 125. Shot drill is, at present, the only form of penal labour in force, but bookbinding for Government Departments, screen, basket, and mat making, tailoring, &c., are carried on within the walls of the prison, while gangs of prisoners are constantly employed on the roads and in sanitary work.

The total number of persons committed to prison in 1895 was 354, nine of whom were women, and five "juveniles" under 14 years of age. A very large proportion of these commitments were for minor offences dealt with summarily in the District Commissioner's Court. No death occurred in the prison throughout the year, and no execution took place.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

There were 517 summary convictions for minor offences during the year 1895, and 119 persons committed for trial at the Criminal Assizes, which are held on the first Monday in every month throughout the year.

Looking at the ease with which the mud or bamboo walls of houses may be penetrated, it is not surprising that burglary is among the commoner crimes in Lagos, and a good deal remains to be done towards breaking up the organisations that undoubtedly exist, having for their object that particular form of felony. It is curious to note that the native's superstitious belief in "charms" frequently leads to his apprehension and conviction on this charge. The burglar on business bent rarely fails to provide himself with a few of the more potent varieties, warranted to send the householder to sleep, or to render the intruder invisible. So well is this custom known, that the wearing of such "charms" is made illegal by Ordinance. Ordinances, however, are powerless against superstitions, and the native detected in his burglarious transactions is almost invariably found to have some excellent evidence for the prosecution tied round his neck.

POPULATION.

The census of 1891, which gave the population of the Island of Lagos as 33,000, remains the most recent reliable estimate, though it cannot be doubted that a very large increase has taken place since that date. Up country, the inclusion of Ayessan, Itebu, and the Mahin country within the Colony has added a large number of subjects to the British Crown.

The number of births registered during the year 1895 was 1,443, as against 1,197 in 1894, which, taking the population of Lagos Island (where alone registration is carried on) as 33,500, represents a rate of 43 per thousand, an increase of 7 per thousand over 1894. This large increase is due, in the opinion of the Registrar-General, rather to a wider recognition of the requirements of the Registration Ordinance than to any sudden wave of philo progenitiveness on the part of the population.

Thirty-seven marriages, six less than in 1894, were registered as having taken place in Christian places of worship.

1,775 deaths were registered in 1895, the largest number on record, as against 1,487 in 1894, fever being responsible for 487, lung diseases for 367, and dysentery and diarrhœa together for 275. Among Europeans the deaths numbered 16, in a community of about 150, seven of these appearing in the returns as due to fever. This, though better than in 1894, when nearly 16 per cent. died, is still sufficiently appalling.

EDUCATION.

The number of schools examined by the inspector under the Education Ordinance 1887 was 29, consisting of 55 departments; 24 infant, 24 primary, 2 secondary, and 5 industrial, the Government grant earned amounting to 1,146*l.* 16*s.* The inspector's report is, on the whole, satisfactory, but attention is drawn to the need for the enlargement of buildings in certain cases, and to the necessity of the provision of proper sanitary accommodation.

The number of children on the registers of inspected schools in 1895 was:—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Anglican - - - - -	1,162	558	1,720
Wesleyan - - - -	272	199	671
Roman Catholic - - -	403	359	762
United Native African - - -	92	31	123
Total - - -	2,129	1,147	3,276

The daily average attendance being 2,427. Of the children attending, 70·9 per cent. were Christians of various denominations, 13·0 per cent. Mahommedans, and 16·1 per cent. Pagans.

The per-centage of Mahommedan children has slightly decreased since 1894, but there are not wanting signs that the opposition of the leading Mahommedans to the education of their children in the European manner is breaking down, and that in the immediate future the influence of a more liberal form of education will make itself apparent among that important section of the community.

LEGISLATION.

Two Ordinances of considerable importance were passed by the Legislative Council during the year 1895—viz., No. 5, "to amend the Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1892," and No. 10, for the establishment of the Civil Police. The former doubled the duty on spirits imported into the Colony (raising it from one shilling to two shillings per imperial gallon), and its effect upon the revenue remains to be seen; the latter dissociated the Civil Police from the Houssa Constabulary, and placed the force under a distinct basis as regards organisation and management. As this Ordinance was passed only on the 27th of December 1895, no report as to the result of the change can be made as yet.

HOSPITAL STATISTICS.

Seven hundred and twenty-four patients were treated in the Colonial Hospital during the year, 93 deaths occurring. Out-patients numbered 7,780, and 4,269 were assisted at Ereko Dispensary.

Patients treated at the Contagious Diseases Hospital numbered 102, 72 being small-pox cases. The number of people vaccinated under the Ordinance No. II. of 1873 was 12,753.

The nursing at the Colonial Hospital is in the hands of natives, but with a view to the better carrying out of this important work in future, it is intended to secure the services of trained European nurses.

There is no lunatic asylum in the Colony, but it is proposed to erect a suitable building at an early date. At present lunatics are sent under escort to Sierra Leone, where their treatment and maintenance are paid for by the Lagos Government.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The events of the year 1895 having the most important bearing, for good or evil, on the destinies of the Colony were the commencement of the railway and bridges, the development of the rubber industry, and the doubling of the spirit duty. The decision, based on the report of the consulting engineer, to place the terminus of the railway on Iddo Island, instead of in Lagos itself, has been the subject of much controversy, the mercantile community being practically unanimous in favour of a situation in Lagos. In view of this fact it is possible that the question may be re-opened. The route to be followed by the later sections of the line has also been much discussed, but it is agreed on all sides that the two large native towns, Abeokuta and Ibadan, must be included among the places to be connected with the coast.

The rubber industry has been already alluded to, together with the possibility that the short-sighted rapacity of the collector may, if not checked and controlled, kill the goose that lays the golden egg.

Of the effect of the doubling of the spirit duty it is too early as yet to speak, the Ordinance having only come into operation late in the year. The immediate result was, of course, a check to the importation of spirits, but it remains to be seen whether this will be permanent.

A commission started late in the year charged with the duty of delimiting the Anglo-French boundary between Lagos and Dahomey. It is proposed that this boundary be definitely agreed upon up to the 9th parallel of north latitude, and there is no reason to anticipate any dissension on the subject. English interests are in the hands of Mr. F. C. Fuller, District Commissioner, while France is represented by Captain Plé, Special Service Officer.

Relations with adjacent tribes have been, on the whole, of a friendly nature, but an unprovoked and obviously organised attack made upon Captain Bower, Resident at Ibadan, on the occasion of his visiting Oyo late in the year, abruptly disturbed the general sense of security in that part of the country. Captain Bower, having beaten off his assailants, in default of explanation or apology, shelled the town, and his Excellency Sir Gilbert Carter, having proceeded to Oyo and personally investigated the circumstances, approved of this action.

The improvement of the bar, a comprehensive survey of the districts, and the provision of a water supply and drainage system for the town of Lagos are among the more pressing and important wants of the Colony still remaining unsatisfied. In view, however, of the heavy liabilities to be contracted in connexion with the railway and bridges, it is necessary to proceed on the path of progress and improvement with the caution rendered imperative by the duty of keeping a constant eye on the revenue. The statistics for 1895 give no hint that the growing prosperity of the Colony is about to suffer a check, nor is there, throughout the community, any lack of the spirit and enterprise necessary to face the extended responsibilities that extended boundaries and interests involve.

FRANK ROHRWEGER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 219.

LAGOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1896.

(For Report for 1895, *see* No. 185.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
November 1897.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
188	British Guiana	1895–96
189	Gold Coast	1895
190	Jamaica	1895–96
191	Canada	1895
192	Bermuda	1896
193	Bahamas...	,,
194	Zululand	,,
195	Gambia	,,
196	Malta	,,
197	British New Guinea	1895–96
198	Turks and Caicos Islands	1896
199	Barbados	,,
200	Leeward Islands	1895
201	Trinidad and Tobago	1896
202	Gibraltar	,,
203	Fiji (Trade)	,,
204	Straits Settlements	1895
205	Do. do.	1896
206	Falkland Islands	,,
207	British Honduras	,,
208	Sierra Leone	,,
209	Grenada	,,
210	Hong Kong	,,
211	St. Lucia	,,
212	St. Vincent	,,
213	St. Helena	,,
214	Seychelles	,,
215	Mauritius	,,
216	Cocos Keeling and Christmas Islands ...	1897
217	Fiji	1896
218	Ceylon	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast...	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	Solomon Islands.

No. 219.

LAGOS.

(For Report for 1895, *see* No. 185 of this Series.)

GOVERNOR MCCALLUM TO MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Lagos,
22nd September 1897.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward six copies of the Blue Book for 1896, together with report on the same by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

HENRY MCCALLUM,
Governor.

Colonial Secretariat, Lagos,
10th September 1897.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit six copies of the Blue Book for 1896, together with my report upon it.

The report is not so full as I could wish, but I have been somewhat pressed as regards work of late and I think it better to send it in its present condition than to delay its rendition any further.

14970—750—11/97 Wt 20613 D & S—5 (B)

TAXES, DUTIES, FEES.

The only alteration under this head was that the transit duty to Porto Novo on spirits, which was raised in October 1895 to 2*s*. per gallon, was reduced to the old rate, 1¼*d*. per gallon. The change did not take place until the 8th December, and this was too late in the year to allow of an opinion being formed as to whether the transit trade with Porto Novo would resume its former dimensions under the improved conditions of import through Lagos.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

2. The balance to the credit of the Colony on the 31st December 1895 was £54,146. The revenue for the year amounted to £179,745 9*s*. 9*d*., and the expenditure was £168,444 17*s*. 7*d*.; the available balance therefore, on the 31st December 1896, was £65,447. The estimate of revenue for the year was £178,135, and was slightly exceeded, but, as a result of the increase of the duty from 1*s*. to 2*s*. per gallon, which was introduced in October 1895, the quantity of spirits imported into the Colony in 1896 was 486,572 gallons less than in the previous year—a very marked falling off.

3. Again, the estimated expenditure was £200,439, but of this sum £40,000 was for the bridges and railway, which has since been provided by a loan; it therefore stood at £160,439 which was less than the amount actually expended by nearly £8,000.

4. The following statements of revenue for the past 10 years mark the progress of the Colony during that period, but in considering these figures it must be borne in mind that up to March 1891 the duty on spirits was 6*d*. per gallon; from that date until the 22nd June 1892, it stood at 8*d*.; from then until December 1895, at 1*s*.; and for 1896, it was raised to 2*s*. per gallon:—

	£
1887	51,346
1888	57,057
1889	57,633
1890	56,340
1891	78,624
1892	68,421
1893	115,317
1894	137,017
1895	142,049
1896	179,745

PROTECTIVE FORCES.

5. On the 1st January the constitution of the constabulary of the Colony was altered, the Civil Police being separated from the Hausa Force, and placed under a Commissioner who is directly responsible to the Governor.

6. The detail of both forces will be found in the Blue Book, and there is but little to be said on the subject of the results of the change as far as the Hausa Force is concerned.

7. The Civil Police are, however, a different matter, and I have much pleasure in testifying to the improvement which has been effected in their general appearance and efficiency by making them an independent force. The manner in which they have responded to the care that has been bestowed upon them by Captain Hamilton during the year under report speaks well for the condition to which they can be brought, provided they have capable and energetic officers over them.

PUBLIC WORKS.

8. The principal works carried out during the year were the erection of a new Treasury; of quarters for the European nurses attached to the Colonial Hospital; of a new hospital, with outbuildings, on the site purchased from Messrs. Regis Aîné et Cie in 1894; and of brickmaking works at Ebute Metta.

9. A sanitary department was established under Mr. Mackison, but very little improvement was effected in the sanitary conditions of the town during the year. The subject is now receiving close attention.

10. A sum of £78,739 was placed on the Estimates for the year for "Public Works Extraordinary," but from this amount must be deducted the sum of £40,000 for the bridges and railways, which were provided for by loan, the amount actually expended under the head in question being £38,758.

11. Bridges connecting Lagos Island with the mainland were commenced, but the progress made was not very great. The connection is carried out by way of Iddo Island, the length to be spanned between Lagos and that place being 2,104 feet. From Iddo Island to Ebute Metta the distance is 917 feet, and in this case the carriage bridge is to be supplemented by a railway bridge, it being arranged that, for the present, Iddo Island shall be the terminus of the railway.

12. The greater part of 1896 was taken up in making preparations for the commencement of the railway, but in December two contractors' locomotives arrived and by the end of that month a few hundred yards of line were laid. Since then the permanent way has progressed rapidly, and it has now passed the Ilo river and the section between Ota and Abeokuta will be very shortly commenced.

The expenditure on bridges during the year was £37,546, and on the railway £31,626.

LEGISLATION.

13. The following Ordinances became law during 1896 :—

"An Ordinance to declare the terms upon which loans may be raised by the Government of Lagos." (No. 1 of 1896.)

This enactment lays down the terms upon which the Colony may borrow money in England, but is not applicable to loans raised in Lagos by the Government.

An Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance for raising the sum of £255,000." (No. 2 of 1896.)

The object of this measure was to enable the Government to provide the funds required for the erection of bridges between Lagos and the mainland, and the construction of the railway from Ebute Metta to Ota by means of a loan raised in England.

An Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to provide for the construction and maintenance of a railway for the Colony of Lagos." (No. 3 of 1896.)

Under this law, provision is made for carrying out the executive details connected with the construction and maintenance of the railway. It has, however, been amended by Ordinance No. 9.

An Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Police Ordinance 1895." (No. 4 of 1896.)

The Ordinance of 1895, reconstituting the police force, omitted to preserve the rights of those constables who had been in the force under the old conditions and an enactment was necessary to definitely deal with the point ; hence the present measure.

An Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to legalise certain payments made in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five, beyond the expenditure authorized by law." (No. 5 of 1896.)

An Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to remove doubts as to the validity of certain proceedings in the Supreme Court of the Colony of Lagos." (No. 6 of 1896.)

This Ordinance was required to set at rest certain doubts which had arisen with regard to the validity of the appointment of two Commissioners to perform the duties of Chief Justice when Mr. Rayner became seriously ill at the end of 1895.

An Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance for the protection of illiterate persons in the Colony of Lagos." (No. 7 of 1896.)

In a Colony where two-thirds at least of the population are unable to read and write or speak English, an enactment of this nature is an absolute necessity, and it was therefore found imperative to take legislative action in the direction indicated in the preamble to the measure.

An Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to enable the Governor to issue a commission of enquiry with special powers." (No. 8 of 1896.)

This Ordinance was passed to meet a want experienced by Mr. Brandford Griffith during his administration of the Government of the Colony. It provides for the appointment of a Commissioner or Commissioners and gives power to them to summon witnesses and to examine them on oath.

An Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to amend and extend the Railway Construction Ordinance 1896." (No. 9 of 1896.)

This Ordinance repealed the seventh section of the "Railway Construction Ordinance 1896," and in its place enacted provisions relating to bye-laws and regulations somewhat similar in nature to those in the repealed section, but much more extensive in character, and it also attaches a penalty, not exceeding £10, to any breach of such bye-laws and regulations. It further gives powers of summary punishment to a Police Magistrate or District Commissioner in specific cases, and applied certain sections of the Imperial Acts to the Colony and Protectorate.

An Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Customs Tariff (Spirits) Ordinance 1895. (No. 10 of 1896.)

By this measure the transit duty of $1\frac{1}{4}d.$ per gallon on spirits passing to the French Colony of Dahomey, which had been disallowed in 1895, was resumed.

An Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Colony during the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven." (No. 11 of 1896.)

COUNCILS.

14. There was no change in the permanent constitution of either Council during the year, but as the Colonial Secretary, Queen's Advocate, and Treasurer were all on leave for a part of the time, the officers acting for them had seats temporarily in both Councils.

15. The Councils were presided over by Sir Gilbert Carter from 1st January to 24th June; by Mr. Frank Rohrweger from 24th June to 14th July; by His Honour William Brandford Griffith, Chief Justice of the Gold Coast Colony, who was appointed by commission to administer the Government of the Colony in the absence of Sir G. Carter and the Colonial

Secretary, from 14th July to 31st August; by Mr. Frank Rohrweger from 31st August to 11th November; and by Captain G. C. Denton, C.M.G., the Colonial Secretary, from the latter date until the end of the year.

16. Leave of absence was granted to the Honourable J. J. Thomas and his place whilst he was away was taken by Mr. J. W. Cole.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

17. Sir Gilbert Carter was invalided out of the Colony on the 24th June, and Mr. Frank Rohrweger as Acting Colonial Secretary, assumed the administration of the Government on that date. His Honour William Brandford Griffith, Chief Justice of the Gold Coast, arrived at Lagos on the 14th July and was appointed Acting Governor by commission from Her Majesty. He, however, proceeded on leave of absence on the 31st August when the Acting Colonial Secretary, Mr. Frank Rohrweger, as senior civil member of the Executive Council, once more took over charge of the Government which he retained until the return from leave of Captain G. C. Denton, C.M.G., the Colonial Secretary.

VITAL STATISTICS.

18. It is impossible to deal with the statistics of the whole Colony as the Registration Ordinance only applies to Lagos itself, and I therefore propose to confine my remarks to the Island as distinct from the portion of the Colony and Protectorate situated on the mainland.

19. The population may be taken as 33,500, the number of Europeans being estimated by the Registrar General at 150.

20. 1,545 births were registered, the number of illegitimate children being 225; of these 348 were returned as Christian, 1,012 as Mohammedan, and 185 as Pagan. The birth rate was 47 per thousand.

21. Only 49 marriages were registered, but this is 12 more than were returned for 1895; of these 20 were performed by Clergymen of the Church of England, 17 by Ministers of the Wesleyan Church, 11 in accordance with the rites of the Romish Church, and 1 by the Baptist persuasion. No marriages were celebrated at the Registrar's Office.

DEATHS.

22. There was a slight decrease in the number of deaths, the figures being 1,702 for 1896 as against 1,775 for 1895. This gives a rate of 52 per thousand and shows a very heavy mortality when compared with the average death rate for England, which is 19·14 per thousand. Infant mortality was especially heavy, 623 deaths of children under one year of age being registered.

23. The year was very fatal to Europeans, there being no less than 28 deaths out of an estimated population of 150. From these figures it will be seen that the European death rate reached 190 per thousand. Six Government officials died during the year in Lagos, viz., Mr. C. de la Poer Beresford, Master of Government Vessels, Mr. George Tallboy, Accountant to the Bridges and Railway Works, Mr. William Randall, Foreman of Works, Mr. Walter Robert Higginson, Inspector of the Hausa Force, Mr. Reginald Robert Gace, Assistant Collector of Customs, and Mr. G. H. Easton, Keeper of the Prison. Mention must also be made of the death of Major Edward Stanley, who was invalided home and expired at Accra some few hours after leaving Lagos.

24 This is a very heavy record, especially when it is remembered that all the persons named were in the prime of life and had been medically examined before they were appointed.

25. In 1895 there were sixteen deaths amongst the European section of the community, the only one of which that was in any way connected with the Government being that of Lady Carter, the wife of the Governor.

In 1894, Captain Suttleworth, Master of Government Vessels, died on the 1st January, and Mr. Swan, Engineer of Government Vessels, on the 5th May, the total number of deaths amongst Europeans being 23. From the 17th November 1888 to the 1st January 1894, the only deaths that occurred amongst Government officials were those of Mr. Orme, Foreman of Works, on the 5th May 1892, and the Reverend M. J. Sunter, Inspector of Schools, on the 15th December of the same year.

26. From these figures it does not look as if the conditions of life in Lagos have become more healthy as the Colony has developed. It may, of course, be said that 1896 was an exceptionally bad year and this is undoubtedly true, but I regret to say 1897 shows no improvement, as up to the present date (10th September) no less than 18 Europeans have died, of whom six were in the service of the Government.

BANKS.

27. The only independent bank in the Colony is the Bank of British West Africa, Limited, which is managed under the auspices of Messrs. Elder, Dempster & Co., the agents for the African Steamship Companies. This bank has benefitted the Colony in many ways and supplies a want which was much felt in the past. It has, I believe, been fairly successful in its transactions and, by advancing money against produce on reasonable terms, has considerably improved the position of the small trader.

28. The Treasury Savings Bank continued its good work, the amount of deposits during the year being £9,248 as against £7,157 in 1895. Such a material increase as that obtained in 1896 is, I submit, a good sign for the future prosperity of the Colony.

LAGOS. 1896.

EDUCATION.

29. The most important event connected with Education was the establishment of a school for Mohammedan children where instruction is given in English, reading, writing, and arithmetic. For some years past the necessity of such an institution had been impressed on the leading Mohammedans by Sir Alfred Moloney, Sir Gilbert Carter, and by myself; but great opposition was offered by the priests and elders to any scheme proposed, from fear of possible encroachments on their religion. Thanks to the influence of Dr. Blyden, who has interested himself very greatly in the subject, the Mohammedans were at last persuaded to establish such a school in June 1896, and there are at the present moment some 80 pupils attending it. At first they insisted on keeping in their own hands the control of the building, and upon the teachers being all Mohammedan, but as the rent of the schoolhouse and the salaries of the teachers have since the 1st June last been paid by the Government, the institution now bids fair to become a purely Governmental establishment under the management of the Inspector of Schools. An important point has been gained by the establishment of this school, and it is indeed a new era in the history of Lagos when the most conservative element of the Muslim population have concluded to enter into competition with the Christians in their efforts to acquire Western learning.

30. Early in the year, the Inspector of Schools, Mr. Henry Carr, was sent to England by the Government to take up a special course of studies at the Royal College of Science, with a view to the introduction of the teaching of Elementary Science in the Secondary Schools of the Colony. Owing to his absence, the annual examination of the schools was not held, and the grants to the schools, which amounted in all to £1,196 19*s.* 0*d.*, were made on the bases of the earnings of the preceding year.

31. The school statistics, as furnished by the heads of the religious denominations, stand as follows :—

Denomination.	No. of Schools and Departments.	Scholars.		Total.
		Male.	Female.	
Church of England ...	15	1,044	587	1,631
Wesleyan Methodist ...	6	428	178	660
Roman Catholic	8	364	341	705
Baptist	1	44	44	88
United African Church ...	1	97	90	187
Total	31	2,031	1,240	3,371

32. The School Inspector's Report for 1895 returned the number of children on the registers of the schools as 3,276. There is thus an increase of about 100 children attending school, and to this must be added those belonging to the Mohammedan School and about 100 girls in private schools which have not furnished any returns to the Government.

33. The Eighth Annual Competitive Exhibition of School Work was held on the 19th of December. This Exhibition showed signs of progress on previous ones, as, in addition to the number of exhibits being larger and the attendance greater, six new subjects, viz., shorthand, wood carving, weaving, straw plaiting, joinery, and smith's work, were introduced for competition. Prizes were awarded in five of these subjects, and it is to be hoped that, as years go on, it may be found possible to still further widen the scope of the Exhibition. The total number of exhibits was 454, as against 329 in 1895, and 18 schools were represented instead of 14 in the preceding year. 512 tickets of admission to the opening ceremony were issued.

34. With a view to encouraging manual instruction, the curriculum of the Rebecca Hussey Charity Institution for the maintenance and education of alien boys has been enlarged, and such arrangements have been made as will enable boys from all the schools in the Colony to take advantage of the instruction in the classes and workshops of the Institution; 12 pupils are also received who are given instruction in recognised elementary as well as technical subjects. The Government makes a special annual grant of £500 to the Institution, in order to enable the trustees to give effect to the enlarged scheme. Instruction is regularly given in carpentry, smith's work, bricklaying, painting, glazing, and colouring, and various works, such as a chest of drawers, ledge doors, sash doors and frame, iron bolts, &c., for private persons in the community have been executed in the workshops. At the last Exhibition of School Work the pupils of this Institution carried off the highest prizes in technical exhibits.

35. The existing system under which grants depend on individual passes has not been found to work well; notably in compelling the promotion of pupils from standard to standard in all subjects with barely the minimum of knowledge in reading and in either writing or arithmetic. A new code has therefore been submitted to the Board of Education, drafted on the principle of freedom of classification, and in which special provision is made for necessitous schools in the poorer districts, and for an adequate supply of competent teachers. It is to be hoped that when the draft code becomes law a much needed impetus will be given to education in the Colony.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

36. The value of the imports for the year was £881,696, as against £771,843 in 1895. As usual cotton goods were the largest item, their value being £350,000. 1,224,041 gallons of spirits were imported and were valued at £54,059. Tobacco and cigars were estimated to be worth £16,922, and wines £2,939.

37. Whilst on this subject, it may not be without interest to draw a comparison between 1888, the year in which I arrived in the Colony, and 1896. In 1888 the total value of the imports was £416,329, out of which sum spirits were responsible for £65,689. In 1896 the value of imports is stated to have been £881,696, whilst the spirits brought into the Colony represented £58,059 of this total. In other words, the imports into the Colony, exclusive of spirits, have risen from £350,641 in 1888 to £823,037 in 1896.

38. Exports were valued at £975,263 as against £985,595 in 1896; of this total, palm oil and palm kernels were represented by £159,150 and £343,206 respectively, whilst the comparatively new industry, rubber, contributed £347,721.

39. The following figures give the imports and exports for the past 10 years:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
	£	£	£
1887	389,473	491,468	880,941
1888	416,329	508,327	924,756
1889	435,373	457,649	893,022
1890	478,104	595,193	1,073,297
1891	607,718	717,642	1,305,360
1892	460,550	577,083	1,037,633
1893	681,943	836,295	1,518,238
1894	690,794	821,681	1,512,475
1895	771,843	985,595	1,757,438
1896	881,696	975,263	1,856,959

AGRICULTURE.

40. The active extension of the influence of the Colony over the Hinterland has without question brought about a more peaceful condition of affairs there and, in this way, has conduced to an increased cultivation of the country, but in the absence of any survey it is impossible to even estimate, with any degree of accuracy, what such an increase amounts to. Wherever you go you find that the forest is being cleared and native products planted, and on all sides are to be seen indications that the inhabitants are taking advantage of the peace which now obtains in the interior to establish what are locally termed farms. I question, however, if the export of palm kernels and palm oil, the staples of the Colony, will show much improvement until an easier means of transport to the markets is forthcoming. For instance, beyond Ibadan to the eastward very little oil is prepared, and no attempt is made to collect the kernels, though the *Elaiis Guineensis* abounds there. No doubt when the railway to Ibadan is completed these industries will receive a great impetus, provided a remunerative price is to be obtained for them in Europe, but the tendency in this respect seems of a downward character and it would not be wise to take too sanguine a view of the prospects of the country if it remain dependent to such a great extent on palm oil and kernels. 1896 was a very dry year, and for this reason the crops were not so good as they generally are, and the scarcity of water was much felt.

BOTANIC STATION.

41. The Botanic Station still remains in existence at Ebute Metta, but the railway has absorbed some of the land belonging to it. It is proposed to establish a large experimental station in the neighbourhood of Ibadan, and if this be done the European curator will be placed in charge of it, the garden at Ebute Metta being under the care of one of the assistant curators.

GAOLS AND PRISONS.

42. The extension of the prison was continued during the year, and there were at the end of 1896, 161 separate cells, two associated wards, and two hospital wards. Convicted prisoners are confined in the separate cells, but untried prisoners and debtors are placed in the associated wards.

43. The prison for females is now completed and consists of eight separate cells, a hospital ward, associated ward, warders' quarters and kitchen with usual outbuildings; it is complete in itself and forms a very compact little prison.

44. Two persons were convicted of murder, but in neither case was the extreme penalty of the law carried out.

LAGOS. 1896.

HOSPITAL.

45. During the year the Colonial Hospital was removed from the site adjacent to the racecourse to the compound which was acquired from Messrs. Regis Ainé et Cie in 1894. Five separate wards and the necessary outbuildings were erected there during the year. This is a great improvement in every respect and when all the accommodation which it is proposed to provide is available, the institution will be a credit to the Colony.

46. A new departure was the appointment by the Government of two European nurses: Miss Clarke and Miss O'Flynn. These ladies arrived in the Colony on the 5th May, and have, during what was an exceptionally unhealthy year, rendered very valuable assistance to all classes of people making use of the hospital.

47. A great feature in the new hospital is the two wards for Europeans; these are supposed to be the particular care of the European nurses and are very much appreciated by that section of the community for whose benefit they were established.

GENERAL.

48. A generally active policy was pursued throughout the year in the Hinterland, and a detachment of Hausas was placed at Ogbomosho, in addition to those already stationed at Ibadan, Odo-Otin, and Oyo. Early in the year an attempt was made by Sir G. Carter to obtain the acceptance of the Ilorins to the boundary between that country and Yoruba Land as defined by Captain Bower and Captain Lugard in 1895, but they declined to enter into negotiations on the subject and gave proof of their determination to stand out by attacking Odo-Otin in great force in May 1896. They were driven off with considerable loss but still held an aggressive attitude against this Government, and the Ilorin authorities would not allow communication with us in any way. In fact, so firm was their resolve on this point that they informed the Lagos Mahommedans they would kill any messenger sent by them with Government letters or messages.

49. This conduct on the part of the Ilorins affected the trade of the Colony very seriously, and it also caused a very disturbed feeling to prevail in our territory, which resulted in the cultivation of the land near the boundary being almost altogether abandoned.

50. Except for the attacks on Odo-Otin to which I have alluded, Yoruba Land remained passive and quiescent throughout the year. The occupation of the country may be, and no doubt is, unpopular with the principal chiefs, whose powers are much limited by it, but the bulk of the people like it and, in consequence of it, their position is far more free and independent than was the case previous to 1894.

51 That vexed question, the harm done to the natives of the interior by the spirit trade, still remains under discussion, and whilst on this subject I should like to point out that the quantity of spirits which reach the Hinterland through Lagos appears to be very moderate when considered from a capitation point of view; the comparison between the general trade of the Colony and the spirit trade is also re-assuring, as whilst the latter has increased nearly 150 per cent. the former is only 100,000 gallons or 10 per cent. greater in volume than it was in 1888.

52. I have during a service of over nine years in Lagos travelled a great deal along the Lagoon and in the interior countries, and I am bound to say that drunken people are but rarely met with and that the representations on the subject are much exaggerated. There are more drunken people to be seen in Abeokuta than any other town, I think, but even there the number is very, very small compared with the population of the place. No one is more anxious than myself to prevent the introduction into the Hinterland of ardent spirits in undue quantities, and as the surest means of checking the trade I should like to see the duty on them raised, if an international agreement on the point can be arrived at, but it would be useless for Lagos to follow this course alone as the only result would be a great influx of spirits from Dahomey which would cause loss of revenue to the Colony and do no good to the people whom it is desired to benefit. That increased duties do check importation is evidenced by the fact that the quantity of spirits brought into the Colony at the 1*s.* duty in 1895 exceeded the import for 1896 when the duty was 2*s.* by 480,000 gallons odd.

53. I do not think sufficient notice is taken of the increase in the general trade of the Colony. For the last ten years it has steadily risen and if the development of the interior be proceeded with, I see no reason why the progress already secured should not be continued for a considerable number of years to come.

54. No doubt Porto Novo begins to be a formidable opponent to Lagos and the successful erection of a pier at Kotonou has done much to injure our transit trade, which is of great value to us, not for the revenue it yields but from the fact that other trade follows it. Here that oft discussed question the opening of the Bar comes in, and I have no hesitation in saying that it is one of the greatest importance and must be speedily dealt with if we are to derive a fair measure of benefit from the railway we are constructing at such great cost. In 1892 Sir John Coode estimated the cost of opening the harbour by means of permanent works to ships drawing 20 feet of water at £830,000, but with the greater facilities for obtaining stone which will exist as soon as the railway reaches Awowo this expenditure should be considerably lessened. A scheme for connecting the harbour with the sea by means of a canal capable of taking large steamers

LAGOS 1896.

has also been put forward, and on paper this seems a solution of the difficulty at considerably less cost than would be entailed by the original design; but I understand that it does not find favour with the experts who have considered the matter, and I daresay there are objections to it of a practical nature which do not occur to the lay mind. However this may be, an expert sent out by Messrs. Coode & Matthews is now in Lagos, and it is to be hoped that he will obtain such data as will enable the consulting engineers to devise works which will effectively open the harbour to large vessels for such an expenditure as will be within the means of the Colony.

55. In conclusion I beg to state that the year presented no special features of interest calling for report, but on the whole gave signs of progress which I trust will be realised in the near future.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE C. DENTON,

Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency the Governor,

Lagos.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 232.

LAGOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1897.

(For Report for 1896, *see* No. 219.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
204	Straits Settlements	1895
205	Do. do.	1896
206	Falkland Islands	,,
207	British Honduras	,,
208	Sierra Leone	,,
209	Grenada	,,
210	Hong Kong	,,
211	St. Lucia	,,
212	St. Vincent	,,
213	St. Helena	,,
214	Seychelles	,,
215	Mauritius	,,
216	Cocos-Keeling and Christmas Islands ...	1897
217	Fiji	1896
218	Ceylon	,,
219	Lagos	,,
220	Gold Coast	,,
221	Labuan	,,
222	British Guiana	1896–97
223	Rodrigues	1896
224	Basutoland	1896–97
225	Jamaica	,,
226	Bechuanaland Protectorate	,,
227	Leeward Islands	1896
228	Bermuda	1897
229	Gambia	,,
230	Turks and Caicos	,,
231	Barbados	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland ...	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific ...	Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands... ...	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.

No. 232.

LAGOS.

(For Report for 1896, *see* No. 219.)

ACTING-GOVERNOR DENTON to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,

Lagos,

23rd June, 1898.

SIR.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book for the year 1897, together with an interesting report on its contents by the Acting Colonial Secretary.

2. I take this opportunity to reply to your despatch of the 21st April last, and I beg to inform you that the instructions contained in the second paragraph of that communication have been specially noted, and that every endeavour will be made to render the Blue Book and its report as soon after the close of the financial year as is found possible.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE C. DENTON,

Acting-Governor.

REPORT ON BLUE BOOK, 1897.

REVENUE.

The revenue of the Colony collected during the year 1897 amounted to £177,420, as against £179,745 in 1896. Taking all the circumstances into account it is impossible to regard this falling off as indicating any serious or permanent retrogression

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LAGOS, 1897.

in the financial position of the Colony. The usual cry of "bad trade" has of course been raised, but under the exceptional conditions prevailing during the year the figures cannot be said to point to anything more than a temporary disturbance. The methods of trading forced (or supposed to be forced) on merchants, speculation, long credit, and advances to irresponsible natives, no doubt have something to do with it; the political disquietude owing to events in the Hinterland something more; and a dry season probably most of all.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure during the year under consideration amounted to £182,669, as against £168,445 in 1896, a special outlay of £12,205 in providing a new stern-wheel Government steam yacht being principally responsible for the increase, the "Margaret" having been condemned as unserviceable.

The excess of the Colony's assets over liabilities on December 31st amounted to £60,731.

SAVINGS BANK.

The Savings Bank established in 1886, under Government control, had a total of 716 depositors during the year, the amount to their credit on December 31st being £13,230.

The business of the bank is managed by the Treasurer of the Colony, and interest at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum is allowed on deposits.

It is satisfactory to note that the number of depositors is steadily on the increase, but it must be remembered that most natives of the Colony, especially the women, are born traders, and embark the whole of their available capital in business.

The Bank of British West Africa has a firmly established branch in the Colony, and is of the greatest assistance to the Government.

DEFENCES OF THE COLONY.

There is an armed force known as the Hausa Force, numbering about 844 officers and men of all ranks. This force is intended almost entirely for service up-country, where the endurance and marching powers of the men are of the greatest value. They are armed with Martini-Metford carbines, and the force possesses also five 7-pr. R.M.L. guns, four Maxim guns, two 3-barrel Nordenfelt, one Gatling gun, and four rocket troughs; there is also one 3-pr. quick-firing Nordenfelt on board the Colonial Government stern-wheel steamer "Maud." The total cost of maintenance during 1897 amounted to £23,069. The large

number of out-stations in the interior requiring to be supplied from head-quarters cause the numbers actually stationed in Lagos at any one time to be small, but since 1895, when the force was re-organized, police work is not required of them, all such duties being carried out very efficiently by the civil police. This young force is steadily improving year by year in discipline and activity, and the habitual criminal finds that his profession has to be carried on under increasingly difficult circumstances. It is composed of 382 officers and men of all ranks, and was maintained during the year at a total cost of £11,223. The men in addition to being taught police duties are regularly drilled and taught the use of the Snider rifle, with which they are armed.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The railway, together with the bridges connecting the town of Lagos with Iddo Island and the mainland at Ebute Metta, has been pushed on with all possible speed under the able superintendence of Mr. Gee. At the close of the year upwards of 25 miles of rails were laid, and hopes are expressed that the rail-head may be at Abeokuta by the end of 1898. An Ordinance, authorizing the raising of a further loan of £525,000, has received the Royal assent. The Denton Bridge, joining Iddo Island with the mainland, is rapidly approaching completion.

The new Treasury Buildings, including quarters for the Colonial Treasurer, have been completed, and are now occupied.

A most important work has been undertaken in connection with the demarcation and survey of land in the Colony. The Police Magistrate has been appointed *ex-officio* Commissioner of Lands, offices and a staff assigned to him, and the investigation of titles, with a view to the eviction of squatters and the putting down of encroachments, has been commenced in earnest. Excellent maps are in course of preparation, showing the lands and boundaries of the different owners throughout the town.

The expedition to the interior, mentioned below, forced on the contemplated construction of a telegraph line to Saki, a branch of which has been carried to the Niger at Jebba. The line was laid with extraordinary celerity; the cost of maintenance of such portion of the line as lies within the Colony will be borne by the Colonial Government, and is estimated at £4,513 per annum. It is hoped, however, that this expenditure will be considerably reduced before long, as natives are rapidly being trained to take the place of the non-commissioned officers, Royal Engineers, who have been sent out from England for the purposes of construction and maintenance.

LAGOS, 1897.

Special and increased attention has been given to the important subject of the opening-up and maintenance of roads and waterways, both by the Government and by native chiefs at the instance of the Government. The great improvement that is now going on in means of communication throughout the Colony cannot fail to benefit trade by providing easy access to markets.

IMPORTS.

The total value of the imports from all countries into Lagos during the year 1897 amounted to £770,510, as against £901,474 in 1896. Of this sum. £574,937 represents imports from the United Kingdom, and £165,912 those from Germany. The chief falling off was in cotton and silk goods. There was also a decrease of 5,157 gallons in the total quantity of spirits imported, as compared with the imports for 1896, which will be seen at a glance by reference to the following tabulated statement :—

—	Imported in 1896.	Imported in 1897.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Galls.	Galls.	Galls.	Galls.
Brandy	430	427	—	3
Cordials	439	1,544	1,105	—
Geneva	442,862	480,610	37,748	—
Rum	776,290	730,694	—	45,596
Whiskey	4,054	5,643	1,589	—
Total ...	1,224,075	1,218,918	40,442	45,599

These figures tend to shew that the doubling of the duty on spirits, which caused a falling off in imports under that head in 1896 amounting to 480,000 gallons, still continues to affect the amounts imported. The large increase in the importation of tobacco, chiefly from Great Britain, is also worthy of attention.

EXPORTS.

As was anticipated, the falling off in the production of rubber, due to the reckless way in which it was collected, has come to pass, the amount shipped in 1897 being 4,458,327 lbs., as against 6,484,365 lbs. in 1896. It is early to talk pessimistically of the "extinction of the industry," inasmuch as the opening up of fresh country to peaceful commerce cannot fail to revive the production. At the same time, the greed and guile of the small minority that collects and adulterates rubber, coupled with the

apathy of the large majority that only looks on, must inevitably deal a severe blow to the trade. Steps are, however, being taken to encourage the native chiefs to have the rubber collected in a thrifty and systematic manner, which, it is hoped, will show good results in the near future.

The export of palm oil also shows a very serious falling off, having decreased from 3,154,333 gallons in 1896 to 1,858,968 gallons in 1897, while that of kernels also shows a decrease. In both cases there can be no doubt that the dryness of the past two seasons was chiefly responsible for the decrease, while the disturbances in the Hinterland may have also had some slight effect. On the other hand, cocoa and coffee are being cultivated with success, and the export bids fair to continue to increase. The Government is also using every means in its power to encourage the cultivation of economic plants.

A new article of export has been taken up in mahogany, the value of the wood having been £6,292 in 1897. There is every reason to hope and expect that this trade will become a rapid success.

NEWSPAPERS.

The Government Gazette is published weekly. 3,000 copies were published during 1897.

There are 3 weekly papers in private hands—the number of copies issued being returned at :—

"The Lagos Weekly Record" ...	31,200
"The Lagos Standard"	27,000
"The Lagos Echo"	20,800

PRISON.

The large and well-appointed prison has been further extended during the year 1897, and is perhaps the finest and best ordered building of its kind on the West Coast of Africa, the sanitary arrangements being excellent.

The total number of commitments in 1897 was 680, a large increase on 1896, when the figures stood at 502. There is no reason, however, to believe that a special criminal wave passed over the Colony during the year, the increase being rather due to the growing efficiency of the police.

Sentenced prisoners are employed on useful work, outdoor and indoor, the principal outdoor employment being the cleaning of the streets, while indoor, book-binding, carpentering, tailoring, basket-making, &c., are carried on. The prisoners' earnings during the year amounted to no less than £1,291 8*s*. 7*d*. The mark system is in force, under which remission of sentences may be earned.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of prisoners apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 1,784, as against 1,321 in 1896 and 837 in 1895, the number of summary convictions being 1,015, and convictions in the Superior Court numbering only 31. While these figures may point to the "sinfulness of little sins," it is matter for legitimate congratulation that in a population numbering some 50,000 there should be so marked an absence of grave offences.

POPULATION.

The Census of 1891 remains the only recent estimate of the population of the Colony, namely, 33,000. Probably 50,000 would be nearer the mark now.

The resident European population averages about 250.

The general death-rate is not calculated to re-assure visitors or settlers, being no less than 59 per thousand, as against 19·14 per 1,000 in England. Twenty-three Europeans died during the year, the average age being only 34. Fever, dysentery, and lung diseases are the most fatal ailments. Infant mortality is especially heavy.

EDUCATION.

Education is carried on in the Colony almost entirely through missionary societies of various denominations, as shown by the following figures:—Church of England, 15 schools with 1,744 scholars; Wesleyan Methodists, 8 schools with 776 scholars; Roman Catholics, 8 schools with 706 scholars; the Baptists and United Native African churches having one school each.

There can be no doubt that much remains to be done in the way of education, particularly in the provision of technical instruction. It cannot be too much regretted that in a growing and expanding Colony like Lagos an idea should have taken root that manual labour is not so "respectable" as clerical work in Government and mercantile offices—that the young man in a mechanic's apron, with his fortune in his skilled hands, occupied a lower position in the social scale than the clerk on £24 a year who wears a black coat and starched shirt. It must be recognized as practically impossible to maintain and develop the roads, railways, and resources of the Colony with any chance of financial success under white superintendence alone imported at great expense to face a climate uncongenial, if not absolutely fatal, to Europeans. The future of Lagos rests entirely with the growing boys of the Colony, and, until they and their parents and guardians recognise the dignity of labour as conferring a patent, there is but little chance of the real capabilities of the Colony being brought to light.

LEGISLATION OF THE YEAR.

The Demarcation and Survey Ordinance already alluded to was beyond doubt the most important enactment of 1897. Besides providing for the survey of land and the fixing of boundaries for future reference—which work is in active progress—an attempt was made to put an end to the practice of unlicensed so-called "Surveyors" of trading on the ignorance of natives with only a little less knowledge than themselves. Many hundreds of pounds have been paid for plans not worth the paper on which they were drawn according to the fancy and imagination of unskilled and untaught draughtsmen. In future, surveyors working in the Colony for fee or reward must hold a licence, every facility being offered him of proving his ability to hold it by means of examination, and any infringement of this rule becomes a punishable offence.

The remaining local Ordinances call for no remark.

HOSPITAL STATISTICS.

794 cases were treated in the Colonial Hospital during the year, including 130 of fever and 104 of injuries and wounds. There were 109 deaths.

In the Contagious Diseases Hospital 68 cases were dealt with, leprosy and small-pox being responsible for 46. There were 10 deaths.

In the four towns of Lagos, Badagry, Leckie, and Epe, 23,270 persons were vaccinated, by far the larger number with success.

There is as yet no lunatic asylum in the Colony. Patients are sent to the lunatic asylum at Kissy in Sierra Leone for treatment at the expense of the Lagos Government.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The year 1897 will be memorable for two events of conspicuous importance to the Colony of Lagos; viz., the brilliant celebration of the completion of the 60th year of Her Majesty's reign, and the despatch of West India and Hausa troops to the "Hinterland" to protect British rights and interest.

His Excellency the Governor, Major H. E. McCallum, R.E., C.M.G., arrived in the Colony on the 23rd of April. The celebration of the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty's Accession was utilized by him as the occasion for bringing together at head-quarters a representative gathering of native kings and chiefs, collected from all parts of the Colony and Protectorate, that was probably unique in the history of Lagos

LAGOS, 1897.

for numbers and importance. Many distant and widely separated people met at Government House in Jnne last, to find for the first time that they had one interest and sentiment in common—that of allegiance and loyalty to the Queen—and it cannot be doubted that such a gathering of the clans, some of them perhaps not over fond of one another, under one standard, must have a vast and most important effect upon the future of the Colony.

Discussion is still going on as to a feasible scheme for the sanitary reform of Lagos town in connection with water supply and drainage that can be carried out reasonably within the means of the Colony. It will be easily comprehensible that on a malarial island a mile or two long by half a mile broad, with a population of 50,000 souls living on it, and a much larger number of bodies dead and buried in it for many years past, disturbance of the soil is to be avoided by every possible means. No scheme has yet been approved.

The question as to deepening the Bar is always with us, the cost of the only serious schemes being absolutely prohibitive at present. In the future, however, the Colony looks forward to great things. The railway is being rapidly constructed, and it is within the bounds of practical politics to think hopefully of the time when the railway will tap the undeveloped countries in the "Hinterland" of the Colony as well as on the Niger, thereby expanding and developing the Colony and adding to its revenue.

MARK KERR,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

21st June 1898.

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LAGOS.

REPORT FOR 1898.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
255	Basutoland	1897–98
256	Newfoundland	1896–97
257	Cocos-Keeling and Christmas Islands ...	1898
258	British New Guinea	1897–98
259	Bermuda	1898
260	Niger.—West African Frontier Force ...	1897–98
261	Jamaica	„
262	Barbados	1898
263	Falkland Islands	„
264	Gambia	„
265	St. Helena	„
266	Leeward Islands	„
267	St. Lucia...	„
268	Fiji	„
269	Turks and Caicos Islands	„
270	Malta	„
271	Gold Coast	„
272	Trinidad...	„
273	Sierra Leone	„
274	Ceylon	„
275	British Solomon Islands	1898–99
276	Gibraltar	1898
277	Bahamas	„
278	British Honduras	„
279	Mauritius and Rodrigues	„
280	Grenada	„
281	St. Vincent	„
282	Hong Kong	„
283	Jamaica	1898–99

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast...	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.

No. 284.

LAGOS.

LAGOS, 1898.

(For Report for 1897, *see* No. 232.)

CAPTAIN G. C. DENTON to GOVERNOR SIR WM. MACGREGOR.

October 31st, 1899.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the Report on the Blue Book for 1898.

I.—GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

2. The revenue for the year, inclusive of a Parliamentary grant of £10,000 in aid of telegraph construction to the Hinterland, was £206,444, as against £177,420 in 1897. The local revenue may therefore be taken to have been £196,444. This is by far the largest amount ever collected, and no doubt the very large sums expended in wages of carriers employed in the Hinterland, in consequence of the troubles with the French, both by the Imperial and Colonial Government, were to a great extent responsible for the increase.

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LAGOS, 1898.

3. The following statement shows the amounts collected under different headings in 1898 as compared with 1897 :—

——	1897.	1898.
	£	£
Customs	159,819	179,792
Harbour, wharf, and light-house dues ...	673	644
Licenses, &c.	7,793	6,447
Fees, reimbursements, &c.	3,089	3,361
Postal revenue	2,147	1,865
Rent of Government property	389	424
Interest on investments	2,257	2,125
Miscellaneous...	1,129	1,485
Land sales	121	296
Parliamentary grant	Nil.	10,000
Total ... ... £	177,420	206,444

The revenue for the past five years was :—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1894	137,017
1895	142,049
1896	179,745
1897	177,420
1898	206,444
Total... £	842,675

4. The expenditure for 1898 was £203,802, and of this sum the Hinterland telegraph absorbed £11,809.

5. The following is a comparative statement of the heads of expenditure for the years 1897 and 1898 :—

	1897.	1898.
	£	£
Governor	5,756	5,093
Colonial Secretariat	2,265	5,257
Queen's Advocate	1,072	985
Treasury and Savings Bank	1,861	1,977
Customs	5,776	5,500
„ special	90	70
Audit Office	993	1,101
Post Office	1,713	1,806
„ special	Nil.	138
Printing Office	855	992
„ special	Nil.	327
Harbour Master	2,494	2,483
„ special	168	2,327
Government vessels	7,306	3,231
„ special	12,205	3,426
Engineer's Department	Nil.	5,476
Supreme Court	5,877	6,849
Ecclesiastical	12	Nil.
Charitable	308	229
Educational	2,500	2,373
Hausa Force	23,083	24,074
Police	11,223	10,862
„ special...	Nil.	111
Prisons	2,586	2,498
Medical	9,021	10,468
Sanitary	2,296	Nil.
Botanical	Nil.	834

—	1897.	1898.
	£	£
Registrar-General	307	305
Transport	9,373	6,673
Aborigines Interior	7,834	9,352
Miscellaneous...	6,304	5,273
Pensions	2,570	3,171
Rents	582	522
Land Department	Nil.	1,438

6. As will be seen from the figures given there was no deficit at the end of 1898, the revenue exceeding the expenditure by £2,642.

TAXATION.

7. By Ordinance No. 1 of 1898 the duty on wines, liqueurs, and cordials was raised from 1*s.* to 2*s.* per gallon, but no other change took place.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

8. The statement of assets and liabilities is, I consider, satisfactory, as, notwithstanding heavy and unusual expenditure, the amount carried forward on the 31st December 1898 exceeds the excess of assets on the 31st December 1897 by over £2,000.

PUBLIC DEBT.

9. The only debt incurred by the Colony is in respect of the amount required to construct two bridges connecting Lagos Island with the mainland at Ebutte Metta, and a railway from Ebutte Metta to Ibadan. Legislative authority to raise a sum of £780,000 for these purposes has been obtained, but at the end of 1898 only £350,000 had been borrowed. The general revenue is the security for the amount raised, and it is to be paid off from the same source by means of a sinking fund.

CURRENCY.

10. Although by Ordinance No. 2 of 1880 the following gold coins, viz., Spanish and South American doubloons and half-doubloons, American double eagle, eagle, half eagle, and quarter eagle and French twenty-franc pieces are legal tender as well as British sterling, the currency is almost entirely confined to the latter. A noticeable point in this connection is that British silver coin is at a premium on the West Coast of Africa, and as far as I am aware it is the only part of the world of which this can be said.

II.—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

11. The values of all kinds of articles imported into the Colony in 1898 was estimated at £892,863, as against £758,515 in 1897.

12. The principal articles of import were :—

	1897.	1898.
	£	£
Beads	18,488	12,623
Bridge and railway materials	3,273	33,130
Building materials	18,049	22,621
Cotton goods	297,615	339,778
Haberdashery...	16,404	14,429
Hardware	13,980	18,314
Kola nuts	21,190	23,052
Provisions	9,028	10,539
Specie	69,505	148,820
Wines and spirits	69,476	79,769

13. The imports for the past five years were :—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1894	690,794
1895	771,843
1896	881,696
1897	758,515
1898	892,863
Total... ...	3,995,711

14. These figures may be said to shew a steady increase in the import trade, as 1897 was an abnormal year owing to the troubles with the French in the Hinterland, and the constant moving about of troops there.

15. The value of the exports in 1898 is calculated at £882,329, as against £810,974 in 1897, and the following is a comparative statement for the years 1897–98 of the principal articles :—

—	1897.	1898.
	£	£
Cotton goods	10,747	22,557
Palm oil	97,590	97,337
Palm kernels	306,834	362,539
Rubber	283,184	285,409

16. The value of the exports for the past five years was :—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1894	891,681
1895	985,595
1896	975,263
1897	810,974
1898	882,329
Total... ...	4,545,842

17. In this connection I append a further comparative statement of the three principal exports for the past five years which is of much interest :—

Year.	Palm Oil.	Palm Kernels.	Rubber.
	£	£	£
1894...	187,927	440,065	324
1895...	205,553	320,434	269,892
1896...	159,150	343,206	347,721
1897...	97,590	306,834	283,184
1898...	97,337	362,539	285,409

18. From this it appears that the palm oil trade is less than half what it was in 1894 and 1895, but the export of kernels remains much the same. The falling off in the former is no doubt due to rubber having become, since 1894, such a very large article of export from the Colony, but owing to the injury inflicted on the trees from the reckless way in which it has been collected, it appears to me almost certain that this will not continue, and that for some years—say five or six—this industry will fall off almost entirely. If my supposition is correct, it is of the first importance to encourage the natives to return to the palm oil industry which they have been tempted to give up because of the higher profits which the collection of rubber yielded. As the *Elais Guineensis* (the tree from which palm oil and kernels are obtained) requires very little cultivation, and abounds throughout the Hinterland, there should be very little difficulty in bringing this about. There should also, now, be more labour for preparing the produce, as quite three-fourths of the carriers engaged on the Hinterland operations in 1898 have been discharged, and are available for agricultural work.

MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

19. Though steps have been taken in the direction of ascertaining if valuable minerals exist in the Hinterland of Lagos, no definite conclusion has so far been arrived at. In certain districts the prospects are, I have reason to think, promising, but this is all that can be said. At the present time there are no mines within the sphere of influence of the Colony.

20. The manufactures of the Colony, which are limited in extent, are very fully given on page 107 of the Blue Book. No doubt some of them may be capable of development, but taken as a whole they are not suitable for export, and it will, in my opinion, be a long time before a sufficient supply for the country itself even will be obtained from local resources.

21. The natives do not attempt sea fishing. Large quantities of fish are, however, taken by them in the lagoon and dried and sent to the Hinterland. A large trade with the interior towns is also done in dried prawns, which during the rainy season are very plentiful in the neighbourhood of Lagos.

AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRIES, AND BOTANIC STATIONS.

22. The principal crops cultivated by the natives are corn, cassada, and yams, and a very large proportion of the open country in the Colony, Protectorate and Hinterland, is covered with them. As far as I have means of forming an opinion, the supply of these products is more than sufficient to meet local demands, so much so that in 1895, when there was a failure of the crops on

the Gold Coast, corn to the value of £5,718 was exported to Accra and Cape Coast. Previous to that year hardly any had been sent out of the Colony, but since then there has been an export of this product valued at £1,260 in 1896, £931 in 1897, and £662 in 1898.

23. There are several coffee plantations—two of which are under European management, but the price of this product (Liberian coffee) is so poor at present that planters are very much discouraged just now.

24. At Itele, Captain Davies, a native of good position, has a cacao plantation, but I cannot say that the trees on it compare at all favourably with those I have seen in the West Indies. As both the situation and soil appear favourable, I fancy the fault must lie in the method of cultivation adopted.

25. The Roman Catholic Mission has established a large cocoa nut plantation on the strip of land lying between the lagoon and the sea opposite Topo in the Western District, and it is doing well; but the Fathers have no modern appliances for making the copra, and to export the nuts in bulk is out of the question on account of the heavy cost of freight. At Leckie and Badagry the Government have many thousand trees, but of late years all cultivation has been abandoned for the reason given above. If mills were established it is possible the industry might be made to pay, but I am told that the cocoa nut does not thrive nearly so well on the West Coast of Africa as in Ceylon and Fiji.

26. The Botanical Station which was established in 1887 has done good work in the Colony and neighbourhood, but it is not large enough to be of much practical use, nor is its situation suitable; a new station is, however, to be started further inland, probably near Abeokuta on the line of railway, which will I believe tend much to develop minor industries. As land is plentiful it will be possible to grow economic plants in such quantities as will form object lessons to the natives, and thus supply a want which has long been felt.

LAND GRANTS AND GENERAL VALUE OF LAND.

27. Except on Lagos Island, and perhaps to a small extent at Ebutte Metta, the value of land can hardly be said to have been practically ascertained, but steps are being taken, I believe, to deal with the matter. In Lagos Island land has been granted by the Government to individuals since the year 1863 on what are known as Crown grants. These grants confer a freehold title, and land held under them has frequently changed hands, the price in each case depending very much upon situation, but I think it is fair to say that 2*s*. 6*d*. per square yard is accepted as about the average value.

SHIPPING.

29. In 1898, 478 steamers with a tonnage of 409,790 tons, and crews numbering 15,620 were entered at the port of Lagos. Of these, 180 vessels of 110,119 tons burden, with crews numbering 5,628, were German, the remainder being owned by British firms. In 1897, the steamers were 453, with a tonnage of 398,003 and crews numbering 15,361 ; German firms being the owners of 202 vessels of a tonnage of 97,770 tons, and having crews amounting to 5,150 men. Three steamers of French nationality were entered at the port, whose tonnage and crews amounted to 4,194 and 125 respectively.

30. The number of steamers that cleared from the port in 1898 was 478, and their tonnage and crews were 411,960 and 15,635. Of these, 132 were German, their tonnage and crews being 114,802 and 8,378 respectively.

31. In 1897, 492 steamers, tonnage 401,824 and crews 15,290, cleared from Lagos, of which 201 with tonnage and crews amounting to 97,332 and 5,065 were foreign. One sailing vessel entered and cleared in 1897, and one in 1898. Both were foreign (Brazilian).

The following is a comparative statement of the shipping for the past five years :—

Inwards.

Year.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
1894...	445	385,152	15,737
1895...	485	399,352	15,523
1896...	406	403,574	15,087
1897...	487	398,352	15,372
1898...	479	410,104	15,631

LAGOS, 1898.

Outwards.

Year.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
1894...	446	385,447	15,746
1895...	499	395,637	15,595
1896...	472	401,831	15,374
1897...	493	402,176	15,301
1898...	479	412,174	15,636

III.—LEGISLATION.

32. Ten Ordinances were passed in 1898. No. 1 dealt with the change in the Custom duties to which I have already referred. Nos. 4 and 8 were the ordinary supply Ordinances. Nos. 2, 3, 5, and 6 amend enactments already in force. No. 7 deals with the management of the Queen's Gardens and Glover Hall. No. 9 provides for the administration of the estates of Africans dying in foreign employment by vesting them in an Administrator-General, which was much required; and No. 10 regulates the establishment, control, and management of all markets within the Colony and Protectorate. This last enactment has an important bearing on the trade of the Colony, and has for its principal object the administration of the different markets on the Lagoon side, to which the produce is brought from the interior and then sold to the Lagos native traders, who convey it to Lagos and dispose of it to the European merchants there. The administration is conducted by means of committees, composed of traders attending the market and natives locally interested in it, who are appointed by the Governor and with his approval have the power of making bye-laws for the better regulation of the markets. Of these committees the District Commissioner is *ex officio* Chairman.

IV.—EDUCATION.

33. There are in all 33 schools, of which five are secondary. The schools may be said to be almost entirely under the control of the different missionary societies, but the Government gives assistance in the shape of grants-in-aid, based partially on results and partially on capitation payments. The general control of educational matters is governed by an Ordinance, which provides for a Board of Education composed of the Governor, the members of the Legislative Council, and four nominated members, under whose immediate direction all details are carried out. (The allotment and proportion of the grants-in-aid are fixed by examinations held by the Inspector of Schools once in every twelve months.)

34. There is only one industrial or technical school in the Colony. To this the Government contributes £500 per annum, and in it are taught carpentry, blacksmith's work, and gardening. It is under a European superintendent, and was established in connection with the Hussay Slave Institute in 1895. Some 18 to 20 boys, who were originally slaves, are the inmates of the institution as first established, and these are housed, fed, and clothed at the expense of the charity. In addition, about a dozen boys whose parents can provide for their maintenance &c. are received for training in the workshops, and I am glad to be able to say that though great difficulty was experienced in starting the technical branch it is now in full swing and doing excellent work.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

35. There is a general hospital and a contagious diseases hospital, both of which are entirely maintained by the Government. Paying patients are, however, received. A leper asylum has also been established on the mainland, about four miles from Ebutte Metta, and a small lunatic asylum is in course of construction.

36. There is no poor house, but a certain number of paupers, who are unable to work, are maintained by the Government under the supervision of the Chief Medical Officer. There is no reformatory.

37. A Government Savings Bank was established in 1886. At the end of 1898, £15,908 stood to the credit of the depositors, who numbered 965. The rate of interest is 2½ per cent. per annum, and a sum of £14,350 is specially invested on account of the Savings Bank.

LAGOS, 1898.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

POLICE.

38. The strength and detail of the police force will be found on page 30 of the Blue Book, under "Return of Military." It is a semi-military force, and in addition to its civic duties is regularly drilled and trained to the use of arms. It is armed with the ·303 Martini-Metford rifle, a very efficient weapon, and is almost entirely recruited from the Yoruba tribe.

PRISON.

39. The only prison in existence in the Colony in 1898 was that at Lagos. During the year, 676 males, 26 females, and 11 juveniles were committed to prison, and the average daily number of convicts was 134. There were 82 admissions to hospital during the year, and the average daily number on the sick list was 1·29. The prison was frequently visited by the Officer Administering the Government, and was found in good order.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

40. On page 114 of the Blue Book a comparative statement of summary convictions, convictions in the Supreme or Superior Court, and acquittals for the past four years will be found. From this it will be seen that 1898 was a fairly normal year as far as convictions were concerned, the number being 933 against an average of 869 for the four previous years, and 926 for 1896, 1897, and 1898. The acquittals were the smallest in number for the past four years, being 171 as against an average of 228.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

41. In a place where it is so difficult to obtain reliable returns of births and deaths it is impossible to say with any certainty if the population has increased or become less since the census of 1891. Even in Lagos itself the floating population is so large that anything like an accurate estimate cannot be formed. I believe, however, that when the census of 1901 is taken a slight increase will be found in the population of Lagos Island, whilst that of the Colony must be considerably larger, in view of the fact that an extensive portion of the Jebu country was ceded to Her Majesty in 1894.

PUBLIC HEATH.

42. The health of Lagos Island was, as far as Europeans were concerned, undoubtedly more satisfactory in 1898 than for some years previous. The native population, however, suffered severely, the death-rate being the highest known except that in 1897.

43. The death-rate for the past five years was as follows :—

Year.	Europeans.	Natives.	Total.	Death-rate per mil.
1894	23	1,464	1,487	46
1895	16	1,759	1,775	53
1896	28	1,674	1,702	52
1897	23	1,903	1,926	59
1898	8	1,869	1,877	58

SANITATION.

44. The question of improving the sanitary condition of Lagos has engaged the attention of the Government for some years past, but, so far, it has not been found possible to devise a scheme likely to give satisfactory results which the Colony is able to afford. There are hardly any drains, and what there are are only to carry off the surface water in wet weather. There are both land latrines and latrines over the water, and all Government buildings and some private houses are supplied with earth closets.

CLIMATE.

45. 1898 was an unusually wet year, the rainfall being 80·20 inches. As 1896 and 1897 were quite the reverse, rain was much wanted, and the country has greatly benefited from the heavy fall in the year under report.

TEMPERATURE.

46. The minimum temperature was 71·2, the maximum 90·2, and the mean 77·2.

DIRECTION AND FORCE OF WIND.

47. The direction of the wind appears to have been principally from the south and south-west, but the force of it was never excessive, and, as far as the year went, matters in this respect were normal.

Lagos, 1898.

VIII.—POSTAL TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Postal.

48. The Post Office revenue was £1,978 and the expenditure £1,514. Post offices, in addition to the central one at Lagos, have been established at Badagry, Epe, and Ikoradu within the Colony, and at Jebu Ode, Ibadan, and Abeokuta in the Hinterland. 272,334 letters, parcels, &c. were dealt with by the Postal Department in 1898, as against 240,358 in 1897.

Telegraphs.

49. The Colony is connected with England by a cable belonging to the African Direct Telegraph Company, the charge per word being 7*s.* 10*d.* to the general public. The Company receives a subsidy of £1,000 per annum from the Lagos Government, and, in consideration of this, Government messages have priority over all others, and are conveyed at the reduced rate of 3*s.* 9*d.*

50. In 1898, an inland telegraph line connecting Lagos with Jebba on the Niger and with Saki, a Yoruba town to the north of Abeokuta, was completed. As far as Ogbomosho and Saki the expenditure involved in the upkeep of this line falls upon Lagos, but from Ogbomosho to Jebba it is a charge upon the West African Frontier Force. A sum of £10,000 was, however, granted by the Imperial Government in 1897 towards the cost of the construction and maintenance of this line, the actual amount expended in 1898 on the service being £11,809.

Telephones.

51. Nearly all the Government offices and the Beach Signal Station are connected by telephone, the exchange being at the Secretariat. A separate system of telephonic cummunication between the police stations in the town of Lagos has also been established.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

Regular Forces.

52. During the first half of 1898 portions of the 1st and 2nd W. I. Regiments were stationed in Lagos, but the expenditure in connection with the Imperial troops was discharged by the Imperial Government.

53. There are neither militia nor volunteers in the Colony.

CONSTABULARY OR SEMI-MILITARY COLONIAL FORCE.

54. The Colony possesses a force which is purely military in character, called the Hausa force. It consists of an inspector-general, 3 inspectors, 17 assistant inspectors, paymaster, quarter-master, 3 native officers, and 828 of other ranks, and it is armed with the Martini-Metford carbine. It has also the following :— Five 7-pr. R.M.L. steel guns, four rocket troughs, one 3-pr. quick-firing Nordenfeldt gun, five Maxim guns, and two 3-barrel Nordenfeldt guns.

55. The expenditure on this force for 1898 was £24,074.

56. The Lagos police is a semi-military force, but I have dealt with its constitution under paragraph VI. of this report.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

57. The most important event of the year to the Colony was, undoubtedly, the conclusion of an agreement with France, under which certain territory situated between Lagos and the Niger was recognised as within the sphere of British influence. British rights were also acknowleged over the empire of Sokoto on the left bank of the river. It is early days to speak of what will be the results of this arrangement, but it means, without question, the pacification of a large extent of country, and it is to be hoped that a developed cultivation of economic products will follow as a natural consequence.

58. The construction of the railway made good progress, as did also that of the bridges connecting Lagos Island with the main-land. At the present time the line is open for the conveyance of passengers to Abeokúta, but it has not yet been handed over to a railway department immediately under the control of the Local Government. If all goes well the line to Ibádan should be completed by the end of next year, and it is hoped that the bridges will be opened for traffic at the end of January or beginning of February next.

59. During the year a good many miles of road were constructed in the neighbourhood of Otta, in Jebu Remo, Jebu Ode, Ibadan, Iwo, and Oyo territory, a sum of over £7,000 being expended on this service.

60. The completion of the new hospital was very nearly effected, £6,368 being expended on it during the year. A leper asylum at Yabba, four miles from Ebutte Metta, was finished at a cost of £1,677. Alterations to, and the enlargement of, the Secretariat were carried out at a cost of £1,999 ; £1,973 was expended on a club house, to finish which a further sum of £1,027 is allowed, and considerable improvements, involving an expenditure of £2,665, were effected in connection with the brick works at Ebutte Metta. The installation of the electric light was completed

Lagos, 1898.

in the streets of Lagos at the beginning of the year, but Government House and the Colonial Hospital were not lit by electricity until September. It is proposed to extend the electric light to the different public buildings and quarters, and during the current year those to the south-east of the works will be brought into the connection. A property known as Fabres, on which the printing office has been erected, was purchased from a French firm for £3,600: it also gave the necessary ground for the alterations to the Secretariat, and there still remains space to construct two sets of quarters on it.

61. The only important change in the establishment of the Colony was the appointment of Sir Henry McCallum to the Governorship of Newfoundland. He was succeeded in Lagos by Sir William MacGregor, who, however, did not take up the administration of the Government until May 1899.

62. It is not easy to predict the future of the trade of the Colony. 1898 was, on the whole, a good year, but it was alleged by many that competition had so seriously affected prices that it had become impossible to do a remunerative business. In the timber trade there was marked development, the export of mahogany, as it is called, being valued at £12,944, as against £6,291 in 1897. In 1895 the value of the timber exported from Lagos was only £24, whilst in 1896 it was £275.

63. The rubber industry will, I fear, fall off to almost nothing for some few years. This is due to the reckless way in which the sap has been collected. In many instances the trees have been cut down, and in other cases the incisions have been made so very deep that they have caused the death of the trees. In my opinion the formation of plantations of the *Kickxia Africana* is the only way to resuscitate the rubber trade, and I am glad to say one European firm had taken the matter up before I left. The natives, also, had promised to do their best to conserve the few remaining trees, and, under the direction of the Superintendent of Woods and Forests, nurseries of the various rubber yielding plants had been established in different parts of the Colony and Protectorate. In this way there are, I consider, reasonable grounds for hope that the export of rubber will resume its former dimension within the next seven years.

64. The import trade is expanding gradually, and I think as soon as the railway is finished it will receive a great impetus. At present, although the line is open to passengers as far as Abeokuta, only comparatively small packages are carried over it.

65. There will, I have no doubt, be a falling off in the spirit trade in consequence of the increase in the duty, but I think we may safely calculate an additional revenue to the extent of nearly £40,000 a year under this head.

66. The dangers of the climate of West Africa are so well known that it is unnecessary for me to say much on this point, except that I have found no improvement in it since I first went

there in 1888. It is quite unsuited for white labour, and even those Europeans who are occupied in the superintendence of the different public works suffer very much.

67. The ordinary daily wage of a labourer or carrier is from 9*d.* to 1*s.* per day; when sent away from the Colony they are generally allowed an extra 3*d.* per day subsistence money. Carpenters, masons, printers, blacksmiths, tailors, shoemakers, painters, and coopers obtain from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 6*d.* per day, according to their attainments, and canoe men may be placed in the same category as labourers and carriers.

68. The rate for labourers, &c. is undoubtedly high, and endeavours are being made to reduce it, but so far, the supply being barely equal to the demand, it has been almost impossible to effect very much.

69. Domestic servants are paid by the month, their wages varying from 15*s* to £2 10*s*. A good steward or cook, however, can always command a higher salary, as much as £4 being given in some instances.

70. The cost of living has very materially increased during the last eight years. This was in the first instance due to the establishment of the Niger Coast Protectorate, and, recently, the formation of the West African Force has still further raised wages and prices. Roughly speaking, the cost of living in Lagos may be said to have gone up 33 per cent. since I first went there in 1888, and this, from what I am told, is equally applicable to natives as well as Europeans.

71. In Lagos Island large numbers of the inhabitants have been educated on English lines and conform to a great extent to English habits and customs. The bulk, however, of the population is essentially native in its manner of living, and my experience leads me to think that they are quite as industrious and happier, and more contented when not too much trammelled by the restrictions of civilisation. Polygamy, of course, prevails in this section of the community, the numerous wives supporting themselves and their children by trading. The husband is the centre of the family and affords them protection and house room.

72. The general condition of the Colony is decidedly satisfactory, the progress made during the past ten years being very great. The import and export trade in 1898 was £1,775,192, as against £839,504 in 1889, whilst the revenues for the respective years were £196,444 (exclusive of a Parliamentary grant of £10,000) and £57,633. The development of the Hinterland has also proceeded with rapid strides, and British influence has made itself felt as far as the Niger.

73. The raiding and sale of slaves in the interior has almost entirely been put a stop to, and the offering of human sacrifices, which was by no means uncommon even in the recent past, may be said to be abolished, though it is possible that it may, on very rare occasions, be practised at the present time in some of the

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Lagos, 1898.

out of the way places, of course without the knowledge of the Lagos Government.

74. I believe the people of the country are very happy and contented, and they have undoubtedly extended the area under cultivation very much since 1893, which must tend to their prosperity. Altogether things look bright, and, in my opinion, there is a great future before Lagos, and when the railway is opened to Ibadan I hope to see the export trade of the Colony materially increase. It is unfortunate that the harbour can only be entered by vessels of comparatively small draught, as this undoubtedly checks the development of the place, but perhaps it may be possible later on to undertake the opening of the bar by a permanent work, though the estimated cost (£800,000) of such an undertaking appears almost prohibitive at the present time.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE C. DENTON,

Colonial Secretary of Lagos.

LBFe '06

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 321.

LAGOS.

REPORT FOR 1899.

(For Report for 1898, *see* No. 284.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

May 1901.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
293	Bermuda	1899
294	Barbados	"
295	Malta	"
296	Fiji	"
297	Turks and Caicos Islands...	"
298	Bahamas	"
299	Sierra Leone	"
300	Gambia	"
301	Seychelles	"
302	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
303	Trinidad and Tobago	"
304	Straits Settlements...	"
305	Gibraltar	"
306	Gold Coast	"
307	Ceylon	"
308	Leeward Islands	"
309	St. Helena	"
310	British Honduras	"
311	St. Lucia	1899–1900
312	St. Vincent	1899
313	Basutoland	"
314	Hong Kong	1899–1900
315	Southern Nigeria	"
316	Grenada	1899
317	Jamaica	1899–1900
318	British Guiana	"
319	Christmas Island	1900
320	British Solomon Islands	1899–1900

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.

No. 321.

LAGOS, 1899.

LAGOS.

(For Report for 1898, *see* No. 284.)

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR SIR G. C. DENTON to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Lagos.

18th August, 1900.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book for the year 1899, together with a full report on it by the Assistant Colonial Secretary, Mr. F. B. Archer.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE C. DENTON,

Lieutenant-Governor.

8466—800—3/1901 Wt 24600 D & S—5

LAGOS, 1899.

BLUE BOOK REPORT, 1899.

I.—GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The total revenue for 1899 was £192,792, as against an estimated revenue of £214,000, the revenue during 1898 being £206,441, which amount, however, it must be pointed out, includes the Parliamentary grant of £10,000 in aid of the telegraph construction in the Hinterland.

This deficit is due entirely to the falling off in the importation of spirits, which, no doubt, may be accounted for by the increase of the duty of 2*s.* to 3*s.* on the 13th of May.

2. The following table shows the heads of revenue for the year 1899 as compared with those for the preceding year.

Revenue.

Head.	1898.	1899.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	179,792	175,696	—	4,096
Harbour...	644	705	61	—
Licences	6,447	6,744	297	—
Fees, &c.	3,361	3,854	493	—
Postal Revenue	1,865	1,517	—	348
Rent of Government Property	424	463	39	—
Interest on Investments ...	2,125	2,177	52	—
Miscellaneous	485	1,229	744	—
Land Sales	296	402	106	—
Parliamentary Grant	10,000	—	—	10,000
&c., &c., &c.				
Totals	£206,444	£192,792	£1,792	£14,444

3. The revenue received during the past five years was :—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1895	142,049
1896	179,745
1897	177,420
1898	206,444*
1899	192,792
Total ...	£898,450

* Which includes Parliamentary grant, £10,000.

4. The expenditure during 1899 was £223,289, or £19,487 more than that of the preceding year. The increased expenditure was in connection with the Hausa Force, Police Force, general transport, the Interior Department, interest on public debt, and the payment of no less than £4,824 as refund and rebate of Customs dues.

5. A comparative statement of the heads of expenditure during the years 1898 and 1899 is as follows :—

Department.	Expenditure in 1898 in Pounds Sterling.	Expenditure in 1899 in Pounds Sterling.	Increase in Pounds Sterling.	Decrease in Pounds Sterling.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Governor	5,093 2 5	5,094 12 8	1 10 3	—
Colonial Secretariat ...	5,257 18 2	3,545 4 3	—	1,712 13 11
Queen's Advocate... ...	985 4 11	913 3 10	—	72 1 1
Treasury and Savings Bank	1,977 13 8	2,420 15 5	443 1 9	—
Customs	5,500 11 7	10,325 8 9	4,824 17 2	—
„ Special	70 8 10	—	—	70 8 10
Audit Office	1,101 9 10	1,244 13 8	143 3 10	—
Post „	1,806 15 0	1,763 17 9	—	42 17 3
„ Special	138 18 2	—	—	138 18 2
Printing Office	992 1 4	897 4 3	—	94 17 1
„ Special	327 11 1	—	—	327 11 1
Harbour Department ...	2,483 13 9	2,506 0 10	22 7 1	—
„ Special	2,327 11 7	696 3 2	—	1,631 8 5

Heads of Expenditure—cont.

Department.	Expenditure in 1898 in Pounds Sterling.	Expenditure in 1899 in Pounds Sterling.	Increase in Pounds Sterling.	Decrease in Pounds Sterling.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Government Vessels ...	3,231 2 1	3,276 14 10	45 12 9	—
„ Special ...	3,246 18 7	2,554 17 3	—	872 1 4
Engineer's Department ...	5,476 11 7	4,181 12 4	—	1,294 19 3
„ Special... ...	—	5 5 0	5 5 0	—
Supreme Court	6,849 9 9	7,431 14 9	582 5 0	—
Ecclesiastical	—	40 0 0	40 0 0	—
Charitable	229 6 5	290 17 9	61 11 4	—
Educational	2,373 19 10	3,361 9 6	987 9 8	—
Hausa Force	24,074 15 8	30,465 16 9	6,391 1 1	—
Police	10,862 11 7	14,639 7 11	3,776 16 4	—
„ Special	111 16 5	1,034 5 4	922 8 11	—
Prisons	2,498 19 2	2,835 8 6	336 9 4	—
Medical	10,468 7 9	11,569 9 2	1,101 1 5	—
Botanical and Agricultural	834 9 5	599 18 10	—	234 10 7
Registrar General's Office	305 2 3	321 18 5	16 16 2	—
Transport	6,673 18 2	8,231 3 5	1,557 5 3	—
Interior Department ...	9,352 4 4	12,109 4 5	2,757 0 1	—
„ „ Special	—	655 17 10	655 17 10	—
Miscellaneous	5,273 13 2	5,437 13 1	163 19 11	—
Rent...	522 1 4	442 7 2	—	79 14 2
Pensions and Gratuities...	3,171 12 11	3,425 11 11	253 19 0	—
Land and Survey Department.	1,438 18 4	997 6 7	—	441 11 9
Public Works Department	9,672 1 3	21,023 8 10	11,351 7 7	—
„ „ Recurrent Expenditure.	9,000 5 4	11,159 3 3	2,158 17 11	—
Public Works Extraordinary.	41,521 12 4	28,711 14 1	--	12,809 18 3
Works Chargeable to Surplus Balances.	595 10 3	5,103 13 10	4,508 3 7	—
Charge on Public Debt ...	5,964 15 7	13,567 16 8	7,603 1 1	—
Hinterland Telegraph ...	11,809 11 7	—	—	11,809 11 7
Woods and Forests ...	—	407 19 0	407 19 0	—
Total	203,802 15 5	223,289 1 0	51,119 8 4	31,633 2 9

TAXATION.

6. By Ordinance No. 3 of 1899 the duty on spirits, not being liqueurs or cordials, was increased from 2*s.* to 3*s.* the imperial gallon; but by Ordinance No. 8 of 1899, passed on the 26th December, all previous tariff Ordinances were repealed, and a duty of 3*s.* was imposed on all spirits and liqueurs, and also on all perfumes, medicated, miscellaneous spirits or strong waters, or any compound containing spirits mixed with any article which prevented the degree of strength being ascertained.

The duty on the following articles was also raised:—Tobacco (manufactured or unmanufactured), kerosine, sugar, salt, kola nuts, &c., &c.

Goods on which duty had been paid in Northern and Southern Nigeria were admitted without additional payment of customs dues provided that the duties that had been so paid were not at a less rate than the existing tariff of the Colony.

Dutiable goods from any part of the Colony or Protectorate for export to either Northern or Southern Nigeria were made liable to payment of the full duty, and no drawback was allowed in respect thereof,

7. The following statement of the duties received from the importation of kerosine into the Colony during the years 1898 and 1899 is here given as a matter of especial interest:—

Month.	1898.	1899.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
January	17 16 5	47 14 1
February	25 0 11	20 18 1
March	38 19 7	8 19 5
April	23 16 2	153 1 1
May	33 10 6	7 5 0
June	4 10 6	73 9 4
July	25 10 4	11 5 0
August	43 2 9	3 15 0
September	45 17 3	11 7 6
October	28 10 3	141 8 7
November	12 0 0	—
December	22 6 5	39 13 2
Total	£358 1 1	£518 16 3

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

8. At the close of the calendar year the assets exceeded the liabilities by £32,343. The financial year of the Colony has hitherto ended on the 31st December, but it has been decided to make it run in future concurrently with the financial year of Northern and Southern Nigeria, which ends on the 31st March.

PUBLIC DEBT.

9. Legislative authority has been provided to raise by loan the sum of £780,000 for the construction of the Railway and Bridges now approaching completion. The amount borrowed by the Colony before the end of the year, in the shape of advances in anticipation of the issue of this loan, amounted to £699,162, on which interest is being paid.

CURRENCY.

10. There has been no change in the currency. Cowries are still used in nearly all retail transactions in the native markets; but ordinary silver coin is accepted in payment everywhere.

II.—TRADE.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

11. The trade of the Colony has shown a substantial increase during the year; the value of all imported goods being estimated at £960,797, as against £892,863 in 1898. The bulk of the Colony's trade is with the United Kingdom and British Colonies, as the following comparative statement for the last five years will show :—

12. Statement showing total value of imports into the Colony of Lagos for last five years, exclusive of transit :—

Places.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	570,140	651,955	568,112	709,863	784,154
British Colonies	23,224	30,286	26,565	39,497	41,624
„ Possessions ...	970	1,567	3,096	5,435	6,363
Foreign Countries	177,510	197,889	160,743	138,069	128,656
Total... ...	771,844	881,697	758,516	892,864	960,797

13. The principal articles of import were :—

—	1899.	1898.
	£	£
Beads	19,453	12,623
Bridge and railway materia ...	91,401	33,130
Building materials	25,232	22,621
Cotton goods	305,437	339,778
Habadashery	20,082	14,429
Hardware	17,872	18,314
Kola nuts	26,784	23,052
Provisions	8,983	10,539
Specie	160,325	148,820
Wines and spirits	75,976	80,078

14. The principal exports, which comprise palm oil, palm kernels, rubber and timber, were as follows :—

Year.	Palm oil.	Palm kernels.	Rubber.	Timber.
	£	£	£	£
1895	205,553	320,434	269,892	—
1896	159,150	343,206	347,721	275
1897	97,590	306,834	283,184	6,291
1898	97,337	362,539	285,409	12,944
1899	168,457	412,817	160,315	34,737

15. The total exports for the past years were as follows :—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1895	985,595
1896	975,263
1897	810,974
1898	882,329
1899	915,934
Total... ...	4,570,095

16. The increase in the export of timber, from £275 in 1896 to £34,739 in 1899, is worthy of special notice.

The decrease in the export of rubber, from £347,721 in 1896 to £160,315 in 1899, is clearly due to the reckless and unskilful manner in which rubber was collected, which resulted in killing the majority of the trees.

The collecting of rubber has been prohibited for a period of two years, to give time to the trees that survived to recover themselves. Planting is also being encouraged.

It will be noticed that the export of palm oil varies largely in amount. The small exports of oil in 1897 and 1898 were probably to be attributed to the fact that large numbers of labourers were employed on the railway works. There are still districts in which the palm kernels are not collected, apparently for want of labour.

PUBLIC WORKS.

17. The principal works executed during 1899 were the erection of a new Public Works wharf, the heightening and filling of the Marina Embankment, enlarging of the kerosine magazine, and completion of a new mortuary.

A new grand stand at the racecourse was built, and the Lagos Club house was completed. A fine new European ward was added to the Colonial Hospital, and the extension of the telephone system on the Island was carried out.

During the year a light railway was constructed to the beach for the purpose of obtaining the necessary material for filling up the Kokomaiko Swamp.

The Glover Memorial Hall was thoroughly overhauled and remodelled. The new police barracks and the lunatic asylum were in course of construction.

A prison at Epe was commenced.

A great feature during the last two years has been the establishment of the electric light. All principal streets throughout Lagos are now efficiently lighted by means of 250 candle-power glow lamps. The light is kept burning from sunset to sunrise. All the principal Government buildings are connected, and it is hoped before very long to make arrangements for installing it in the houses of the mercantile community and others.

The bridges connecting Lagos Island with the mainland at Ebute Metta will be completed early in 1900. When the length of the Carter Bridge is considered, and the difficulties in building it that have arisen, such as foundation and tideway, it will be seen that a great deal of work has been done.

The railway has been constructed as far as Abeokuta, and surveys to Ibadan, about 120 miles from Lagos Island, have been made. It is hoped that this town, the centre practically of all Yoruba Land, will in the near future be within easy access from head-quarters.

The streets of the Island during the year have received special attention; so have also matters sanitary. With regard to the streets, many were remodelled as to surface drainage; but there is still plenty to be done in this way, and it will be a matter of great expenditure.

The question of a tramway from the Carter Bridge along the Marina is being considered. Such a tramway would result in the re-formation of streets *en route*.

With regard to interior roads, that from the great Ejirin market, *viâ* Jebu Ode, to Ibadan, has been under construction. The road from Ikorodu to Shagamu is finished. The roadway from Otta to Ilaro is in course of formation on the Ilaro side, and assistance has been promised by the Alakè and Council of Abeokuta on the Abeokuta section. Many new roadways in the neighbourhood of Ibadan have already been formed, and many miles of road through the Ekiti country, eastward, are in course of construction.

MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

18. During the year 1898 little could be done in the direction of ascertaining whether minerals existed in the Hinterland of Lagos, owing to other important works that required attention, and to the fact that the Hinterland at this time was in an unsettled state. During 1899, however, some attention was given to prospecting, and various specimens were unearthed and transmitted to England for assays and report.

Lagos, 1899.

Officers in the various outlying districts are now to be provided with geological instruments, and it is hoped that the prospects, which have hitherto been promising, may be more than realised.

19. The manufactures of the Colony are very limited and crude, and it will be some years before the country will, in the very smallest degree, be able to support itself from local resources. As to articles manufactured, full particulars can be gleaned from page 111 of the Blue Book of the current year.

20. As to fisheries, great quantities of fish are taken in the inland waters, and in fact the principal diet of the native community depends largely on the fish taken; but, oddly enough, the Lagos fishermen confine themselves entirely to the inland waters, and do not, as at other places on the West Coast, attempt sea fishing. The reason of this is no doubt to be found in the bad bar and the surf they would have to encounter. Large quantities of fish are dried and sent to the interior, and Lagos is noted for the exceedingly fine prawns to be obtained in the lagoon.

Agriculture, &c.

21. Since 1887 a botanic station has existed at Ebute Metta, on the mainland to the north of Lagos Island, and this garden in the past has been useful in supplying plants (economic and otherwise) to the various districts of the Colony; a portion of the garden, however, has had to be handed over to the railway, and, beyond keeping the garden clear from weeds, and instructing four native lads that have been placed with him as pupils, the curator has little to do at present. It is hoped, however, at no distant date, to form a station up country, near the railway, and suitable land at a place called Oloke Meji has been well reported upon, and will be surveyed. This land has the railway running through it, and is bordered by a river. Should a botanic station there be decided upon, there is hope of giving full scope to the cultivation of economic plants, such as coffee, cocoa, etc. The plants can be distributed to the natives, who will also be able to receive instruction in their cultivation, and it is hoped that the encouragement thus given by the Government may be the means of the natives establishing numbers of small plantations on their own account.

The principal crops and staple foods throughout this country are maize, yams, cassava, plantains, ground nuts, farina, and fruits, such as banana, pawpaw, pineapple. To these must be added rice, cultivated in some districts. Fertilisation of the soil is, however, unknown at present to the native, who, as one portion of land becomes used up, clears another sufficient for his own use and that of his family.

22. A company has recently been formed, by name Société Belgique, and has acquired the rights of the Ilaro Estate

and Plantation Company, Limited, at Soto, in the Western District. In this neighbourhood coffee and cocoa thrive, but at present the marketable value is small. Attention, however, will in all probability be given in the future to the cultivation of rubber.

Another plantation some 20 miles up the railway at Otta is being worked by a Lagos firm, and there are great possibilities in the undertaking. In other parts of the Colony there are coffee and cocoa farms owned by natives, who not only understand planting, but are also becoming proficient in the preparation of the parchment.

23. An Agricultural and Forestry Department has been formed, with a suitable staff, and it is intended to establish model farms for the general cultivation of the country's products, where natives can receive instruction in planting. Forest reserves have also been proposed.

With regard to the Agricultural Department, six pupils are to be appointed, and they will receive instruction in agriculture, and a proper course of training in the cultivation of economic plants. By these means it is hoped to induce natives to turn their attention to other means of earning a livelihood than the gathering of kernels and rubber.

At the Roman Catholic Mission at Topo boys and girls receive an education in the usual subjects, as well as industrial instruction, comprising domestic economy for the girls, and agricultural tuition for the boys.

24. Concessions of timber lands are being granted to Europeans and natives, with exclusive timber-cutting rights, on the condition that certain payments are made to the native authorities, and young trees planted to take the place of those cut down.

In places where the native authorities are unwilling to protect the timber, trees continue to be felled recklessly, and no attempt is made at replanting. But it is hoped in time to overcome these difficulties and extend the protected areas.

LAND GRANTS. GENERAL LAND VALUATION.

25. The question of legislation with regard to these matters requires attention, and it is hoped that a proper basis will be arrived at at no distant date. The Government has alienated many plots of land on Lagos Island to applicants who were bound to reclaim and improve them properly, but in many cases this has been carried out very imperfectly, with great prejudice to the sanitary condition of Lagos Island.

SHIPPING.

26. During the year the vessels entered at the port of Lagos numbered 489, with a tonnage of 479,409, and crews numbering

Lagos, 1899.

17,997; of this total 189 were foreign vessels, with a tonnage of 132,652, and crews numbering 5,884.

27. The number of steamers cleared from the port were 518, with a tonnage of 487,866, and crews of 18,574; of this number 203 only were foreign, with a tonnage of 138,211, and crews of 6,276. It will be seen that during the year 40 ships, of all nations, more than in 1898 have been cleared from the port.

28. The following is a comparative statement of shipping, both inwards and outwards, during the last five years:—

Inwards.

Year.	Number of vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
1895	485	399,352	15,523
1896	406	403,574	15,087
1897	487	398,352	15,372
1898	479	410,104	15,631
1899	489	479,409	17,997

Outwards.

Year.	Number of vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
1895	499	395,637	15,595
1896	472	401,831	15,374
1897	493	402,176	15,301
1898	479	412,174	15,636
1899	518	487,866	18,574

29. It is worthy of note that the passenger service of recent years has gradually increased in efficiency, and the ships of the English lines, the African Steam Ship Company and British and African Steam Ship Navigation Company, which formerly

did not average 2,000 tons, now range from 3,000 tons upwards, and are of a much better class than hitherto.

There is a fast passenger service every 14 days, a weekly service by the intermediate boats carrying cargo and intermediate passengers, and a monthly service by a direct South Coast steamer.

The existing British tonnage of these ships alone exceeds 150,000.

30. The local branch service comprises 10 steamers, varying in tonnage from 450 to 1,000 tons.

They take cargo over the bar, and to and from Forcados river, where all the mail steamers discharge their cargoes in smooth water.

III.—LEGISLATION.

31. During the year nine ordinances were passed, in the following order:—(1) The Queen's Gardens and Glover Hall; (2) The Supplementary Appropriation; (3) Amendment of Customs Tariff, 1897; (4) The Quarantine; (5) Public Health; (6) Railway Amendment; (7) Alien Children; (8) Further Amendments to the Customs Tariff, and (9) The Supply Ordinance for necessary expenditure during the year 1900.

Nos. 2 and 9 were ordinary supply Ordinances; Nos. 3 and 8 Ordinances amending the Customs tariff and increasing the duties on spirits, firearms, tobacco, and other articles. The increase of duty on spirits had, in a measure, a prejudicial effect at first, owing to the lowness of the French tariff, but it is hoped that the duties in Dahomey will, at no distant date, be raised to the minimum contemplated by the Brussels Conference. Should this be done, there will be but little encouragement for illicit trade into Lagos from Dahomey. No. 4 was found necessary in view of cases of plague appearing on the coast, and to place the quarantine laws, which hitherto had been very lax, on a proper footing. No. 5 is an Ordinance which is much needed to meet the necessities of the advance of civilization in the Colony. No. 6 was passed to deal with crime on the railway area, and until the railway is handed over to the Government it takes the place of the usual railway byelaws. No. 7 is to provide for the proper care under mandate of alien children, of which there are numbers throughout the community.

In addition to these Ordinances six Orders in Council were passed; also three sets of rules under existing Ordinances and 11 proclamations, which are recorded on page 35 of the Blue Book.

LAGOS, 1899.

IV.—EDUCATION.

32. There is no marked improvement in education to report. The number of schools inspected was the same as in the preceding year, namely, 41. The number of infant, primary, secondary, and industrial departments is, however, 76; the distribution being 34 infant, 31 primary, 3 secondary, and 8 industrial.

33. The numbers on the registers of the schools are:—

Society.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Anglican	1,311	616	1,927
Wesleyan	485	212	697
Roman Catholic	472	358	830
United Native African	186	40	226
Government Moslem and Pagan	198	9	207
Hussey Charity	42	—	42
Totals	2,694	1,235	3,929

34. The numbers on an average in daily attendance are:—

Society.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Anglican	981·3	442·4	1,423·7
Wesleyan	383·4	159·1	542·5
Roman Catholic	330·9	294·4	625·3
United Native African	148·6	28·5	177·1
Government Moslem and Pagan	164·9	6·1	171
Hussey Charity	38	—	38
Totals	2,047·1	930·5	2,974·6

35. The total number on the registers for the preceding year is 3,943; there is thus a falling off of 14 children. With the exception of the Wesleyan schools, the assisted schools show a marked increase. It is in the case of the Moslem school in Lagos that there has been a considerable loss of numbers. The reason assigned is the distance of the new school from the homes of the children. This is unsatisfactory, as prior to the erection of the building every precaution was supposed to have been taken to ascertain from the leading Mohammedans their opinions as to the situation chosen. It is not easy to suggest a remedy for the difficulty, and yet the importance of providing for the Moslem section of the community a system of education on Western lines cannot be overrated.

36. The average attendance during the year has shown marked improvement. The proportion of the number of children on the registers present at school averages 75·7 per cent. This is the highest proportion on record. The improvement in the attendance is all on the part of the Christian section. The following is a tabulated return of attendance for the past years:—

—	1899.	1898.	1897.	1895.	1894.
Scholars on Register ...	3,929	3,943	3,543	3,276	3,308
Average attendance ...	2,974	2,910	2,589	2,427	2,458
Proportion (per cent.) of average attendance.	75·7	73·8	73·1	74	74·3

37. The total income and expenditure of the different societies are given below:—

Society.	Income.	Expenditure.	Excess.	
			Income over Expenditure.	Expenditure over Income
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Anglican	1,831 6 7¼	1,853 15 2¾	—	22 8 7½
Wesleyan	845 1 9¾	721 5 9½	123 16 0¼	—
Roman Catholic ...	519 12 11	2,308 10 8	—	1,788 17 9
United Native African.	72 10 5	166 19 1	—	94 8 8
Total ...	3,268 11 9	5,050 10 9¼	—	1,781 19 0¼

LAGOS, 1899.

38. The above table does not include the expenditure of the Government Moslem and Pagan School, or the income and expenditure of the Hussey Charity Institute.

39. One special feature of the School results, for many years now, is their fluctuating character. There have always been ebbings and flowings, but it does not appear that this tidal motion on the whole is beneficial to progress. On the contrary, it only seems to reflect the uncertain quality of the work in the upper standards. In one year, with special effort and great energy, good work is done and good results are produced; in the next year the energy is spent, a reaction sets in, and the work is of indifferent quality. Only by the introduction of new forces into our educational machinery can we escape this non-progressive condition.

The secondary schools suffer like the primary schools from the lack of an adequate supply of suitable teachers, and their work has been much affected thereby.

40. The industrial instruction comprises domestic economy in the Roman Catholic girls' school, and agriculture at the boys' school of the same mission in Topo Station. The Hussey Charity Industrial Institution at Lagos also gives instruction to about 40 boys in carpentry, joinery, smithwork, and shoemaking, and to this institution the Government makes an annual grant of £500.

A Government technical school has been established in Lagos, at which five pupils now receive instruction in geometrical drawing, land surveying, and the art of building construction.

41. The total grants made to the infant, primary, secondary and industrial schools of the different societies are shown in the following table :—

Society.	Sub-Standards Departments.	Primary Standards Departments.	Industrial Subjects.	Secondary Subjects.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Anglican	205 15 0	402 4 6	—	34 16 0	642 15 6
Wesleyan	71 17 0	100 19 6	—	10 6 0	183 2 6
Roman Catholic ...	92 0 0	156 12 6	227 10 0	2 16 0	478 18 6
United Native African.	16 15 0	15 13 0	—	—	32 8 0
Total ...	386 7 0	675 9 6	227 10 0	47 18 0	1,337 4 6

The corresponding grants for the preceding year were £1,380 4*s.* 6*d.* There is thus a decrease of £43, which is in a large

measure due to a falling off in the quality of the work in many schools.

42. Lagos is also a centre for the examinations for the degree of B.A. and LL.B. of the University of London, and for the certificate examination of the London College of Preceptors.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

43. During the year there have been rapid strides in the hospitals throughout the Colony. A large new ward for Europeans was added to the hospital, and I think it can be safely said that the Lagos Government Hospital is efficient in all details. A fine new hospital has been erected at Badagry, costing some £2,500, and a medical officer is specially stationed there to relieve sickness in the Western district. A new hospital building is to be erected at Ibadan ; and at this station, as well as at Epe on the eastern portion of the Colony, medical officers are stationed.

There are also small hospitals at various places throughout the Hinterland, and a contagious disease hospital on Lagos Island.

44. The leper asylum north of Ebute Metta has now been opened, and the lunatic asylum situated on the mainland some few miles up the railway is nearing completion, and as soon as open will remove the difficulty at present existing in the Colony in dealing with insane persons.

No Poor House has yet been opened in the Colony. Neither is there a Reformatory, but destitute persons, properly recommended and brought to the notice of the Government are maintained and cared for from public funds.

45. The Rebecca Hussey Charity, although not strictly a Government institution, receives a grant, mentioned under education. The institution maintains and educates alien children and instructs them in suitable trades, such as carpentry, smith-work &c.

In addition to the lads housed, there are numbers of day students.

SAVINGS BANK.

46. To show clearly the work done by the savings bank during the year I attach the following statement.

LAGOS, 1899.

The number of deposits during the year has increased by 106, and the amount deposited by £545.

Name and situation of Bank.	No. of Depositors on 31st December 1899.	Amount of Deposits during the Year.	Amount of With-drawals during the Year.	Total Amount at credit of Depositors 31st December 1899.	Rate of interest allowed.	Amount of Invested Funds.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£
Treasury Savings Bank, Marina.	1,071	10,487 13 1½	9,842 8 11	16,553 13 1½	2½ per cent per annum.	14,350

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

THE LAGOS PRISON.

47. The Lagos prison of to-day is without doubt the finest in West Africa, and is built on the lines of a European jail. It has cell accommodation for 203 persons, and in addition there are two large rooms, which could, without inconvenience, hold about 40 more. These modern buildings date from 1885, and have been gradually improved until they have reached the satisfactory state in which they are at present.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

48. During the year 663 males, 34 females, and 1 juvenile were committed to prison.

The average daily number of prisoners was 164. The number of admissions to hospital was 125, with an average death-rate of

three per cent. The following is a statistical return of crime for the past four years:—

Comparative Table of Convictions for Crime.

Year.	Male.	Female.	Juvenile.	Total.	Execution.
1895	503	4	Nil.	507	1
1896	470	25	7	502	—
1897	518	43	10	571	—
1898	481	14	11	506	1
1899	512	28	6	546	1

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

49. It is impossible to give even approximate figures regarding the population of the Colony, as there has been no census since 1891.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

50. During the last year or two the health of Europeans has been exceptionally good, but the native community have suffered greatly.

The number of cases treated at the Colonial Hospital during the year was 691, and the number of deaths from all causes in this institution 82. Of this number 10 were Europeans. The total deaths among Europeans during the year was 18.

The vaccination return for 1899 shows a great increase on the previous year. The natives, amongst whom small-pox is very prevalent, are beginning to understand the necessity of this preventive measure.

SANITATION.

51. The sanitary condition of the Island of Lagos has been considerably improved during the last few years. New latrines have been erected in several quarters of the town in the course of

the year. There is, however, no underground drainage, and no water supply has yet been provided.

A medical officer of health, a sanitary engineer, and inspectors of nuisances are charged with sanitary matters affecting the town. Monthly reports are submitted by these officers to the Colonial Secretary.

CLIMATE.

52. The past year, though fairly healthy, has been unusually wet, the rainfall recorded at Lagos being 90·84 inches, nearly a score of inches above the average. The monthly fall was about the average, except that for August, during which no less than 22 inches of rain fell.

It is generally held that the climate of the hinterland is more healthy than that of the coast, but there are no meteorological records and no vital statistics from the inland stations. There is no doubt that the climate of Lagos, like that of most places on the West Coast of Africa, remains very unhealthy to Europeans in spite of all the advances that there have been in hygienic matters.

TEMPERATURE.

53. During the year the highest maximum temperature in the shade (at the town of Lagos) was 94°, against 90° in 1898; and the minimum 71·9°, as against 71·2°; the mean temperature for the year was 79·4°.

54. The prevailing wind is S.S.W.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

55. There have been no important alterations during the year in the Postal Department of the Colony, but all the interior stations have now weekly mails to and fro.

56. The following comparative table will show the work done by the Postal Department during the year:—

Year.	No. of letters posted.	Total amount of money order transactions.	No. of parcels.
		£ s. d.	
1898	58,178	18,645 2 4	1,433
1899	68,669	22,353 1 1	1,812
Increase ...	10,491	£3,707 18 9	379

TELEGRAPHS.

57. The Government telegraph lines during the past year have worked well and with few interruptions. The rate for messages is a shilling for 24 words. During the year there have been no alterations in the cable rates to England, and few interruptions.

TELEPHONES.

58. The telephone system, which provides for communication between the various departments, has been during the year all that could be desired.

The Gower bell instruments have been superseded by the Hunningscone magneto type.

New offices in Broad Street have been erected, in which a telegraph and a branch post office are also now located.

The signal station at the beach has a direct line to the office of the Harbour Master, and is of great use for repeating communications to and from ships in the roads.

All district police stations in the different parts of the town are in direct telephonic communication with the central station in Tinubu Square by means of under-ground cables.

A new station at Lafiaji has also been connected during the year.

IX.—MILITARY.

59. The strength of the force at the close of the year 1899 was 827 ; viz. :—

21 European Officers ;
5 Native Officers ;
790 N.C.O.'s and men ;
11 Non-Combatant Officers.

Detachments from the force are stationed in the principal towns throughout the Colony and Protectorate.

The force is armed with the Martini-Metford carbine.

60. A detachment of 350 Officers, N.C.O.'s and men took part in the expedition in South Borgu during the frontier trouble, and did good service.

61. The expenditure on the Hausa Force during the year increased from £24,074 in 1898 to £30,465 16*s.* 9*d.*, due to the recruiting that took place during the year. It is understood that at no distant date the amalgamation of the Colonial Forces of West Africa under one head will take place.

POLICE FORCE.

62. The Lagos Police Force was created a separate department in January 1896, up to which time it formed one of the two divisions of the Lagos Constabulary. It is a semi-military force and

LAGOS, 1899.

efficiently armed. It has a trained detective branch. The men are principally Yorubas, and have in the course of the year done good work.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

63. The year 1899 was notable for steady progress throughout Lagos and the protected areas.

64. The cessation of the hinterland troubles, and the busy time then experienced, tended to give an air of quietude to the interior, which is generally settling down and accepting civilization peaceably.

65. During the first portion of the year Captain (now Sir George) Denton was Acting Governor, and one of the first undertakings which he carried to a successful issue was to set at rest the minds of the Egba people, who were much disturbed at the advancement of the railway works, as to the ultimate arrangements that would be arrived at between the Alake in Council and the Government of Lagos.

The railway was to pass through a portion of the Egba territory on its way to Ibadan, and it was necessary to acquire land for this purpose. After a little misunderstanding satisfactory arrangements were arrived at, by which the Egba authorities conceded to the Lagos Government the rights over the territory through which the railway would pass, to the extent of 100 yards on either side. It was necessary that this area should be definitely decided upon, owing to the large number of people that would be employed, and the valuable rolling stock that would be in transit.

The Egbas, it can be recorded with satisfaction, have adhered to their agreement, and give assistance in every way to the Railway Commissioner who has been stationed at Aro for the purpose of protecting British interests.

66. The railway has made rapid progress. It now reaches some miles beyond Abeokuta, and complete surveys and clearings have been made so far as Ibadan, where the terminus is to be situated.

67. Since the settlement of the Anglo-French complications on the Northern Frontier the country throughout has been quiet, and is now in a settled state. This in itself should have a satisfactory bearing on trade, which it is hoped will considerably increase as soon as the railway is opened to Ibadan.

68. Vigorous action is being taken to suppress the ruthless tapping of the rubber trees, and every assistance is being given to the people with regard to planting. By these means there are possibilities in the future of reviving this industry.

69. During the year several timber-cutting rights have been granted to merchants, and the export of timber has increased by leaps and bounds; but it is to be feared that this output of timber cannot continue for any great period.

70. As far as palm oil and kernels are concerned, there is no doubt that the labour available is inadequate to cope with the great natural supply; but, again, it is anticipated that the railway will here assist in saving the time of labourers, which hitherto has been utilized in bringing produce to head-quarters.

These exports, therefore, in the near future should gradually increase, as the native must grasp the fact that the greater the produce sent down for export the greater the profits must be, and time then will begin to be considered where it is at present ignored.

71. Whilst on the topic of produce it is well to record the check that has been given to adulteration of palm kernels, which had increased to an alarming extent. The Government by active measures and by the appointment of inspectors to supervise shipments have greatly benefited the trade, and adulteration of produce is now reduced to a minimum.

72. Early in the year the news arrived that the Governor, Sir Henry McCallum, owing to ill-health, would not return.

73. It had long been intended to reclaim that portion of swamp land which lies to the S.E. of Government House, and is known as the Kokomaiko Swamp. A commencement was made in the latter half of the year, using a small number of mules for the traction required. These animals were not a success. Human labour only was then used, but a locomotive with the necessary trucks was ordered from England with the intention of pushing on this important work vigorously.

74. The Public Works undertaken during the year were numerous, but these have been dealt with fully under a special heading. Among the most important of them were increasing the height of the Marina Embankment wall, and building a fine additional European ward to the hospital.

75. In February a new Government Moslem School was opened. The school was the outcome of representations made by the Government to the Mohammedans, and the acceptance of the school points to the removal, in a great measure, of the antipathy of this section of the community to education on Western lines and innovations of any sort, more

LAGOS 1899.

though for a religious than any other reason. The school was opened with great éclat, but the attendance of children has not been as satisfactory as could have been desired.

76. Every encouragement and assistance has been given during the year to the native markets, which in many places are in a flourishing condition, and rules for their proper management have been framed.

77. A proposal had been made to establish in Lagos a quit-rent system of land tenure. The decision not to proceed with this was early in the year received by the natives with much satisfaction. The old system was then temporarily reverted to, under which an applicant undertakes to reclaim a specified block of land within a specified period, in consideration of receiving a Crown grant for the land when the reclamation has been satisfactorily completed.

78. In the educational branch lads are now receiving tuition in technical and survey subjects, the Government having appointed a special instructor.

79. During the year Lagos received a brief visit from a medical officer specially sent out by the School of Tropical Diseases, Liverpool, for the investigation of malaria, and the last few months have confirmed the belief that malarial fever is the outcome of infection introduced by the bite of a special class of mosquito. This in a measure is something towards the solution of the great question of the unhealthiness of the West Coast of Africa, which is anxiously awaited by a large section of the civilized world.

80. In the districts of the Colony, Badagry, Ikorodu, and Epe, everything has been satisfactory. Disagreements among the community have been few and far between. An additional Travelling Commissioner, stationed at Ilesha, in the Ekiti country, on the North Eastern frontier, has been appointed to settle all matters in the neighbourhood, and to be to Northern Nigeria what the Travelling Commissioner of Igbo-Bini is to Southern Nigeria, keeping the boundaries as far as possible free from strife.

81. During the year a Preventive Service has been inaugurated on the Western Frontier for the prevention of smuggling from Dahomey, with head-quarters at Meko. The Government is therefore fully represented on all sides of the Colony and Hinterland.

82. A boon to persons travelling to the various stations bordering on the Lagoon, and to Porto Novo, has been the introduction of a mail launch service at reasonable rates. Launches leave Lagos for the Western District and Porto Novo each Monday morning, returning the next day.

83. A Commission was appointed during the year to consider the feasibility of constructing a sea-pier on screw piles on the eastern side of the Lagos bar, for the shipping and landing of cargo. The estimated cost of the undertaking, including breakwaters, was a quarter of a million sterling. But this is by many considered a low figure. There is no doubt that, if such an undertaking could be carried out, it would be of great importance to Lagos. For instance, the bar during a portion of the year was very bad, and during July, the worst month of the year, the branch steamer "Kwawa" stranded, and her cargo had to be jettisoned.

84. The railway bridges are all but completed, and the question of the approach from the Lagos side is now receiving attention. This will be an expensive item, as there is a great quantity of property to be acquired.

85. Early in the month of May the new Governor of the Colony, Sir William MacGregor, arrived. The question of improved sanitation and a water supply at once occupied his attention. The original scheme for obtaining water from Ikoyi, unfortunately, has so far failed, and it is difficult to see what can be done in a place situated as Lagos is to ensure an adequate and continual supply of water without very great expenditure. A test well is, however, being sunk on that portion of the Race-course immediately behind the Government House, but it is feared that even this will not produce satisfactory results. Lagos itself is practically nothing more than a sandbank, and there appears to be little left to hope for except that before many years are past it may be found possible to remove the Government to an inland position, where proper sanitary conditions may be instituted.

86. The rates of labour during the year have shown little or no change, the daily wage in the town of Lagos for ordinary labour being 9*d.*; but carriers who are required to proceed into the interior, or men engaged as labourers at out-stations in the Colony, receive 1*s.*, the additional 3*d.* being for subsistence. Headmen receive 1*s.* 3*d.*

To obtain carriers to go out of the Colony is most difficult. Recently, to quote an instance, as much as 2*s.* a day was offered, with head money of 5*s.*, and yet very few carriers were prevailed upon to go to the Gold Coast.

A few labourers are, however, under proper agreement, now going for service on the Gold Coast Railway works, as they are no longer required in any great numbers on the Lagos Railway; but tact has to be used in persuading them. The fact is the Lagosian does not like foreign service. Of recent years skilled labour has been difficult to obtain, even for local purposes. Foreign recruiting to the Congo and Fernando Po has been stopped.

Lagos, 1899.

The daily wages paid at the present time within the Colony for skilled labour are as follows :—

Coopers	5*s.* and upwards.	
Painters	2*s.*	„
Tailors	2*s.*	„
Shoemakers	2*s.*	„
Blacksmiths	2*s.* 6*d.*	„
Printers	2*s.*	„
Carpenters	1*s.* 6*d.*	„
Masons	1*s.* 6*d.*	„

87. The general expenses of living, from a European's point of view, have greatly increased of recent years. The average servant cannot be obtained under 30*s.* a month, and in many instances £3 and £4 is given. It will be understood, therefore, especially in cases in which officials have their wives with them, that the item "servants" is a big one. Cooks in 1894 received an average salary of 30*s.*; to-day they command £2 10*s.* to £4.

With regard to the question whether there is an opening for European labour, at present there is none, but when the possibilities of the country with regard to mineral wealth, &c., &c., have been ascertained, there may then, no doubt, be some scope for it. At present Europeans should be strongly advised against coming out on the off-chance of employment, as they only become a burden to themselves and the Colony generally.

The future of Lagos, taking all things into consideration, is a bright one, and the close of the year 1900 should see a substantial increase in the revenue, and in trade generally.

F. Bisset Archer,

Assistant Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 348.

LAGOS.

REPORT FOR 1900-1901.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 321.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
February, 1902.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
321	Lagos	1899
322	Bermuda...	1900
323	St. Helena	"
324	Sierra Leone	"
325	Gambia	"
326	Barbados	"
327	Bahamas...	"
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia...	"
333	Seychelles	"
334	Falkland Islands	"
335	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
336	British New Guinea	1899-1900
337	Leeward Islands	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	"
339	British Honduras	"
340	Hong Kong	"
341	Ceylon	"
342	Gibraltar...	"
343	Basutoland	1900-1901
344	Gold Coast	1900
345	Grenada	"
346	Northern Nigeria	1900-1901
347	British Solomon Islands	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand...	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas...	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific...	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas...	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.

No. 348.

LAGOS,
1900–1901.

LAGOS.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 321.)

GOVERNOR SIR W. MACGREGOR to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,

Lagos,

30th November, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book for the Financial Year 1900-1901, together with a full report on it by the Honourable C. H. H. Moseley, Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

W. MACGREGOR,

Governor.

10728—875—1/1902 Wt 28616 D & S—5

LAGOS, 1900-1901.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Lagos,

5th November, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the following Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the Financial Year 1900-1901.

TAXES AND DUTIES.

No new tax was levied during the year, except that Customs dues were increased by imposing on all goods of every description, not specially exempted in the second part of Ordinance No. 8 of 1899, an *ad valorem* duty of ten per cent. on the value of goods at the port from which the same shall have been imported. Previously, on like goods, an *ad valorem* duty of five per cent. only was levied.

There are no local direct taxes levied by the Government.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The total revenue for the year 1900-1901 amounted to £211,467, showing an increase, as compared with the previous year, of £18,676, and a slight increase, £687, over the sum estimated. The population of the Colony and Protectorate being in round numbers 1,500,000, taxation per head is 2*s.* 9*d.*

The expenditure of the year amounted to £187,124, against £223,289 the year previous.

Comparative statements of revenue and expenditure for the years 1899 and 1900-1901 will be found at the end of this Report.

EXPORTS.

During the year 1900 there was a heavy fall in the value of West African mahogany.

A considerable quantity of timber was cut by natives, who were greatly disappointed by the very low prices offered in Lagos. For a long time there was a large accumulation of logs at Ejinrin, Epé, and in the numerous rivers in the western waters. Logs once brought to Lagos and allowed to lie in salt water are soon destroyed by the teredo, a genus of worm which is very destructive, boring into the timber and destroying it to such an extent that it becomes unmarketable. To avoid this, logs were not brought down to Lagos, but allowed to accumulate in large numbers in the fresh water rivers as well as at Ejinrin and Epé, where the water is quite fresh.

The low prices ruling in the European markets decreased the popularity of timber cutting. A good deal of loss was also incurred by immature trees being felled by native timber-cutters encouraged by merchants, who, in order to secure a good log, would purchase useless ones with which it might be united in a lot, timber being sold in lots.

This practice was detrimental, as it induced the native timber-cutters to fell small trees which were unmarketable. It is feared that considerable timber has been destroyed in this way, and it is obvious that much labour has been wasted from the same cause. This useless expenditure of labour might have been more profitably employed in producing palm oil and kernels, and the loss of labour is as much to be deprecated as the loss of immature trees.

Timber concessions to Europeans have not been profitable for several reasons, the most prominent being the fall in price in Europe of timber, and the high freights charged by the Steamship Companies, and at one time the utter failure of the Steamship Companies to provide shipping accommodation, whereby many logs were ruined from lying in the lagoon, where they were destroyed by the teredo. This unfortunate state of affairs has produced inconvenience and great loss to the concessionaires, and injury to the trade of the Colony; and the mischief done will not easily or speedily be repaired.

Owing to the above causes the timber trade has been a very disappointing one, and it must be expected that this industry will, at any rate for some time, be much neglected. In addition, the loss of labour unprofitably employed must not be overlooked in dealing with this question.

The trade in rubber has, unfortunately, continued to languish, as every expert acquainted with the state of the forests foretold it must do. There is, however, still hope for this export, if stringent measures of forest regeneration are energetically carried out. In this industry, as in the timber trade, labour has been wasted which might have been put to profitable use in collecting and exploiting palm oil and palm kernels. The staples of the Colony are palm oil and palm kernels, timber, and rubber. Labour diverted from working palm oil and kernels to the industry of cutting down, hauling, and floating to Lagos immature and unsaleable logs, and to hunting through the forest to collect a few cupfuls of rubber from a small remnant of undersized and overtapped Iré rubber trees, is waste of labour in the worst possible degree. The trade of the Colony in palm oil and palm kernels has suffered during 1901 through no failure of nature, but from want of the necessary labour to gather the yield.

At the end of this report, a return showing the details of imports and exports during five years will be found.

LAGOS, 1900-1901.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The amount of the debt of the Colony, on the 31st March, 1901, was £972,902.

This debt has been incurred solely for the building of the railway from Lagos to Ibádan, the tramway from Lagos to Iddo, the Abeokúta branch of the railway, and the bridges from Lagos island to the mainland.

The Legislature has sanctioned the borrowing of £1,053,700 for these purposes.

LAGOS GOVERNMENT RAILWAY.

The railway from Lagos to Ibádan was opened for traffic on March 4th with enthusiastic ceremony. The length of the line is 122½ miles. Construction work began in December, 1895. The cost has been, in round numbers, £1,000,000.

The extension of the line is being considered along two alternative routes, viz., either *viâ* Oyo, Ogbomosho, Ilórin, and thence across the Niger to Kano, or *viâ* Iwo, Edi, Oshogbo, Ilesha, Ikirun, Ilorin, and thence northward. Preliminary surveys have been taken. At present, the important towns served are Lagos, Abeokúta, and Ibádan. A small branch line is being constructed from the station at Aro, near Abeokúta, to the walls of the town, across the river Ogun. The terminus at Iddo is being joined to Lagos by a light tramway running over the Carter bridge.

Effect of the Railway on the Local Markets.

Ikorodu market depends mainly upon the supply of native produce from the Egba country, the Ijebu Remo country, and the Ibádan country, and the corresponding demand in those territories for articles of European manufacture or preparation.

The railway taps the Egba and Ibádan countries directly, and it is certain that so soon as native producers have acquired confidence in the line the effect will be that Ikorodu market will become nothing but a large local (Ijebu) market for Remo only. Attendance at this market has been known to average anything from 10,000 to 15,000 persons. To bring produce from Ibádan to Ikorodu by foot takes three days; from the north of the Remo two days; and from the Egba country from one to two days. An extra day must be added for the journey to Lagos. The railway halves these times at the least, and instead of a native producer in Ibádan having to wait from six to eight days for the price of his produce he can now have it in about three days. So soon as the native producer appreciates this it is reasonable to expect that every ton of produce that used to

be sent to Ikorodu from Egba and Ibádan territories will be sent direct to Lagos *viâ* the railway.

Ikosi market is a purely Ijebu market, and practically a local one, and so far as can be seen will not be affected by the railway, unless at some future time a branch line is constructed from Aro to Shagamu, Ijebu-Ode, Araromi, Aiyesan, and the Ondo country.

Ejinrin.—This market, said to be the biggest in West Africa, will be prejudicially affected by the railway, and almost to the same extent as Ikorodu, for, although it "feeds" a greater expanse of territory than the Ikorodu market, yet this is counterbalanced by the fact that some of the districts within its zone are now also in commercial communication with Southern Nigeria, principally *viâ* New Benin. Ejinrin depends upon the Ijebu-Ode, Ibádan, Ilesha, Ikale, Ojo, Ondo, and Mahin countries.

Ibádan and Ilesha and northern parts of Ijebu-Ode will, undoubtedly, be tapped by the railway, and Ejinrin will, in all probability, remain a large local market for the supply of the Ijebu-Ode territory.

Tariff.

All goods, not including agricultural produce, are divided for railway transport into three classes for the purpose of fixing the rates at which they are carried. The following are the rates fixed for the three classes:—

Class I.	... ...	9*d.* per ton per mile.
Class II.	... ...	6*d.* per ton per mile.
Class III.	... ...	3*d.* per ton per mile.

A rebate of 7½ per cent. is allowed to any consignor who forwards a consignment of not less than 10 tons, and 10 per cent for a consignment of not less than 15 tons.

The annual charge on account of the Public Debt incurred for the railway is £51,730.

SHIPPING.

Five hundred and thirty-seven steamers and one sailing vessel, representing a tonnage of 536,091, entered. Of these, 370 were British and 168 foreign, the aggregate tonnage in each case being British 415,501, and foreign 120,590.

Mail, Cargo, and Passenger Service.

The mail, cargo, and passenger service of the Colony has been performed by the Elder, Dempster Line running from Liverpool thrice monthly, and from Hamburg monthly by the steamers of the Woermann Line. In addition, cargo steamers of the above lines run irregularly between Liverpool and Lagos.

LAGOS, 1900–1901.

Several new ships were launched by Messrs. Elder, Dempster & Co. during 1900, and the service has since been better conducted, being now much more reliable. This will prove a great convenience and benefit, since, heretofore, communication had been irregular. The importance of the establishment of regular communication will not be disputed by anyone. The industries of the Colony have flagged, and our commerce has suffered severely in the past from the slow, irregular, and infrequent means by which alone the European markets could be reached.

Officers and other passengers leaving for Europe or the northern coast experience great inconvenience and discomfort at times in having to wait tossing about for days outside the bar, or even having to return and then go out again to meet the ocean-going steamers, whose arrival here from Forcádos is most uncertain.

For this, and other reasons of importance to commerce, a system of some direct means of communication between Lagos and Forcádos was considered a pressing necessity. The finances of the Colony would not justify undertaking a subsidy of £3,500 a year to connect the two places by cable, and the construction of a land wire would mean an expenditure for building and maintenance that could not at the time be met. There remained only the pigeon post: and proposals were submitted and approved by the Secretary of State for the establishment of this system of communication between these two places. The training of pigeons was taken in hand by Captain Elgee. This officer has successfully trained birds to fly from stations within the Colony and Protectorate, and, in spite of the many difficulties to be overcome, it is hoped that the system will be perfected at no distant date, and the experiment of connecting the two ports be successful.

The eastern and western districts of the Colony are now connected by regular and reliable weekly steam launch communication, which is a great improvement on the previous irregular communication by small open canoes. The services are performed by Government launches, and the launch which conveys the Western District mails and passengers proceeds to Porto Novo.

The rate to Great Britain by the African Direct Telegraph Company has been reduced from 7*s.* 1*d.* to 6*s.* 5*d.* per word, Government messages being taken at half this rate. In addition to an annual subsidy of £1,000, paid to the African Direct Telegraph Company by the Lagos Government, £525 was paid to this Company for telegrams despatched over the line during the year.

Inland telegraphic communication between Jebba, in Northern Nigeria, and the principal out-stations in the Colony was maintained by the Government at a cost of £1,350.

The rate charged is 6*d.* for 12 words.

BANKS.

The Savings Bank, which is under the management and control of the Colonial Treasurer, allows interest on deposits at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum. Sums deposited during the year amounted to £9,419, as against £10,487 in 1899, a decrease of £1,068. The withdrawals were £9,855, as against £9,842 the previous year.

The Bank held a total of £16,117 for 1,173 depositors, on the 31st December, 1900, as against £16,553, which stood to the credit of 1,071 depositors in 1899, a decrease of £436 as compared with the previous year.

The Bank of British West Africa started business in Lagos in 1891 as the African Banking Corporation. The authorised capital of the Bank is £250,000, subscribed capital £100,000, called-up capital £40,000, reserve capital £60,000, reserve £11,610. The business of the Bank is increasing every year.

Four per cent. interest is allowed on yearly deposits, and three per cent. for deposits of six months.

MEDICAL.

The expenditure on account of hospitals, and the Medical Department generally, amounted to £11,535. Of this sum £9,070 was paid in salaries. Other expenses entailed a charge of £2,465. In 1890 the expenditure on account of this Department was only £2,975. In 1895, £5,939. This large increase in expenditure is incurred almost entirely for the benefit of the poor classes. The Lagos hospital has during the past three years become more and more popular, and with its green lawns and shrubberies it is one of the most attractive-looking spots in the Colony.

The hospitals of the Colony consist of the Lagos Hospital, the Contagious Diseases Hospital, Badagry Hospital, Epé Hospital, and a Leper Hospital. In addition, there are dispensaries at Ereko and Ebuté Metta. A Lunatic Asylum, situated at Yaba on the mainland, commenced in 1900, will shortly be ready for occupation.

A return showing the distribution of medical officers and nurses of the Department is attached.

On the 25th of January last a number of ladies of Lagos met, by invitation, at Government House, with the result that the "Lagos Ladies' League" was formed, the main object of which is the administration of quinine to children and the combating of infant mortality.

An extract is given of the speech made by the Governor (Sir William MacGregor) on this occasion, which sets forth the

necessity for attention to the high percentage of mortality in the Colony:—

"We are fully aware that there is in this town an appalling amount of sickness, which is attended by a frightful rate of mortality. Two thousand two hundred persons die in this small town every year. It appears from official returns that about one-half of our children die within the first year. Now that is not a matter for us to sit by and look at with our hands folded. The great question is: Can we do anything to improve it? I believe that we can do a great deal, and if it is true that we can do so, it is my duty and yours to do what is in our power."

On the 4th of February the League elected its officers, the first President being Mrs. Sapara Williams, and the Vice-President Mrs. I. Oluwole, the wife of one of the native Bishops, and the Secretary Mrs. O. Johnson.

The islands of Lagos and Iddo, with the mainland suburb of Ebute Metta, have been divided into 16 districts, to each of which a proportionate number of ladies is appointed, one lady in each section acting as head of the district; and at regular and irregular periods the sick poor of the districts are visited by one or more of the ladies appointed to them respectively. Since its formation some hundreds of persons have been supplied with medicines and medical help through the medium of the League.

The League receives every assistance from the Government. Leaflets of instruction in the use of quinine, infant feeding, and the treatment of malarial fever have been written by the Chief Medical Officer for the guidance and information of the League, and the Secretary of State has conveyed his expression of satisfaction at its formation, and the hope that it will be successful in the humane and public-spirited labours which it has undertaken.

At present the League comprises about 100 ladies, and it is obvious that, its efforts being properly organized and directed, it can be of the greatest assistance in dealing with the needs of the sick poor of a population, which, in Lagos alone, numbers some 42,500.

SANITATION.

During the year sanitation occupied the closest attention of the authorities.

In 1890 a sum of £974 was spent under this head of service. In 1895 there was an expenditure of £1,340, and during 1900 £2,699 was spent. Additions in expenditure were made for an increased number of sanitary inspectors and scavengers, all of which were very much required. The sanitary state of the town has greatly improved within the past ten years, but there is room for still greater improvement. The services have been obtained

of a Government chemist at a cost of over £700, whose attention since his arrival in the Colony has been almost entirely devoted to matters connected with health.

In January a Committee was appointed by His Excellency the Governor to report upon the high infant mortality in the town and suburbs of Lagos.

The direct causes of this evil the Commission found to be:—

1. Want of proper management of infants at birth and of the mothers in the puerperal state.
2. Ignorance on the part of the parents of the most elementary laws of health for themselves and infants.
3. Exposure of infants to variation of temperature, both at the time of birth and also afterwards.
4. Indiscriminate use of Agbo (a decoction of leaves and roots).
5. A total lack of actual responsibility on the part of the male parent for the care of the infant and mother.

As to general sanitation, schemes for the removal of sewage of the Colony of Lagos into the sea have been proposed, but, as they involve considerable capital expenditure, and, what is more serious, a large annual expenditure, it has been decided to defer action for the present, and until the Colony is in a better position to afford expenditure on this improvement.

The Government chemist has been engaged since his arrival in the Colony in the examination of all the public, as well as many private, wells of Lagos, carried out on three separate occasions, namely, during the wet season, at the beginning of the dry season, and again in the middle of the dry season.

In the first examination three of the public wells were reported on as good, five wells as suspicous, and the remaining forty-five as polluted. In the second examination, only one good and one suspicious well were returned out of the forty-five, while, in the third, one good and two suspicious were returned.

The better wells all lie in the most thinly populated part of the town, pollution getting greater as this part is left for the more densely populated districts.

Over 150 private wells were examined, and, in addition, 23 samples of water from Apapa, Oyo, Ikorodu, Ibádan, and other places.

The private wells of Lagos were generally all polluted, and were worse than the public wells, only three out of the 150 examined being reported as good.

Samples of water from outlying districts in the Colony were of good quality, some being extremely pure, while others required very little purification to render them wholesome.

It is proposed, as an experimental measure, to build five cement wells, of ten feet diameter, to be sunk with cast-iron running curbs, and five wells lined with iron tubes, three feet

in diameter, and materials necessary for this purpose have been ordered.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The vital statistics for the year still present the unsatisfactory features to which attention has so often been called. Among the native population the births registered are exceeded by the deaths, the number of the former being 1,940, and the latter 1,965. The death-rate among infants is appallingly high, as many as 842 dying under the age of one year, and 1,032, or more than half the total of deaths, under the age of six. Among the Europeans the deaths rose from 18 in the year 1899 to 21. Of the births registered the Mahommedans claim the greater share, numbering 1,363 out of the total of 1,940, as against 400 Christians and 177 Pagans. Fifty-four marriages were contracted under the provisions of the Marriage Ordinances, as against 58 in the previous year.

CLIMATE.

The character of the climate is well known to be unhealthy and depressing, the more pronounced periods of unhealthiness being at the change of the two seasons of the year, the "rains" and the "dries."

Lagos Island, the seat of Government, could never be made a truly healthy town, and it is proposed to erect residences for Europeans and natives at Oloke Meji hills, on the railway line.

Oloke Meji is situate about ninety miles from Lagos. The hills on which it is proposed to build a few experimental residences lie one on either bank of the Ogun River, and are parallel with one another. The highest point is about 1,100 feet. They are covered with rich vegetable soil, and have a delightful, pure air and an agreeable temperature. Dr. Strachan, Chief Medical Officer of the Colony, reports on the climate, soil, and geological formation as suitable for residence by Europeans. Vegetables and fruit can be grown there in any quantity.

MILITARY AND NAVAL.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies has approved of the amalgamation of the military forces of the different Colonies and Protectorates on the West Coast of Africa into a single force, called the West African Frontier Force, the names of the various units being—

Northern Nigeria Regiment (old 1st and 2nd Niger Battalion).

Southern Nigeria Battalion (old 3rd Niger Battalion).

Gold Coast Regiment (old Gold Coast Constabulary).

Lagos Battalion (old Lagos Constabulary or Hausa Force).

Sierra Leone Battalion (old Sierra Leone Frontier Police Force).

This change will ultimately reduce the strength of the Lagos Force from 798 to 510 rank and file. Time-expired men, save in special cases, have not been re-enlisted during the year. It is expected that though less in point of numbers the service will be more efficient.

To meet the necessary requirements of the force there was an increase over the previous year in the purchase of arms, £3,256 having been spent under this head. The total expenditure of the force for the year was £24,978.

On the 16th April, 1900, a column, under the command of Captain (now Major) J. G. O. Aplin, C.M.G., left Lagos in order to proceed to the relief of Sir Frederic Hodgson, K.C.M.G., Governor of the Gold Coast, who was besieged at Coomassie.

The force, consisting of the Inspector-General, Captain Aplin (in command), Assistant Inspectors J. E. Cochrane, B. M. Read, and J. C. Ralph, Dr. W. F. McFarlane, Assistant Colonial Surgeon, two native officers, and 256 non-commissioned officers and men, with two seven-pounders and three Maxim guns, landed at Cape Coast on the 19th April, and fought through all opposition to Coomassie. The column was attacked on the 28th April at Essiago, on which occasion Assistant Inspector Cochrane was wounded severely, Captain Aplin and Dr. McFarlane slightly, whilst one man was killed and 15 wounded. On the 29th April the column was again attacked outside Coomassie, the engagement lasting 5½ hours. Assistant Inspector Read was severely wounded, being struck in no less than seven places. Assistant Inspector Ralph was slightly wounded, three men were killed, and 119 wounded. The column entered Coomassie about six o'clock the same evening. At Coomassie they were actively engaged in assisting the beleaguered garrison, and endured the severest hardships incidental to the siege. Owing to the scarcity of food it was decided that the majority of the garrison should leave Coomassie, and endeavour to cut their way through the enemy's lines. This they succeeded in accomplishing on the 23rd June, being accompanied by the Governor and Lady Hodgson, leaving a portion of the Gold Coast Hausas under Captain Bishop, together with Assistant Inspector Ralph and 39 men of the Lagos column, about 100 men in all, to hold the fort.

This small force held out successfully until relieved, on the 16th July, by Colonel Willcocks (now Sir James Willcocks, K.C.M.G., D.S.O.). Assistant Inspector Ralph lost 20 of his men during the 23 days.

A second column of 80 non-commissioned officers and men, under Assistant Inspectors Anderson and Elgee, left Lagos on the 2nd May and took part in the relief operations.

Inspector H. V. Neal and Assistant Inspectors W. D. Byrne and A. H. Blair were on leave in England at the time of the outbreak. They volunteered for service, and joined the expeditionary force at Cape Coast in June.

LAGOS, 1900-1901.

The total number of officers and men lent to the Gold Coast was nine European officers, two native officers, and 348 non-commissioned officers and men, of which 68 non-commissioned officers and men were killed, or died of wounds or disease. The majority of the survivors returned to Lagos in December.

Inspector Neal and Assistant Inspector Cochrane received the Distinguished Service Order, and Assistant Inspector Ralph was gazetted to a company in the 1st Royal Fusiliers for valuable services rendered during the expedition, whilst non-commissioned officers and men were rewarded with promotions and gratuities for wounds and gallant service.

In addition to this contingent, the Colony supplied for the Ashanti expedition 57 carriers. Of this number, 21 returned to Lagos and 36 died on service.

The Police, a civil force armed for use in case of emergency with the Martini-Enfield ·303 rifle, is under the command of a Commissioner of Police, assisted by two Assistant Commissioners (European), one Superintendent, and one Assistant Superintendent (native). The strength of the force numbers 398 men, and the sum expended on its maintenance during 1900 amounted to £14,117.

Several of His Majesty's Ships of War on the West African Station visited Lagos during the year; the "Dwarf," a recently built twin-screw first-class gunboat, alone was able to cross the bar.

EDUCATION.

The report for the year by the Inspector is on the whole satisfactory. Attention is invited by the Inspector of Schools to the urgent need of increased accommodation in many of the schools. Mr. Carr states that "although the housing of the schools has improved considerably in contrast with their condition ten years ago, there are yet many points in which they ought to be brought up to a proper standard of healthfulness, orderliness, and attractiveness." In 1891 the proportion of attendance to enrolment was 71·2 per cent., as compared with 77·3 in 1900.

The increase in the number of scholars on the rolls of the schools since 1891, the year when the present Education Code came into force, is 29·6 per cent. During the same period the improvement in average attendance is represented by 40·9 per cent. Two night schools have been recently established in the Colony. One is for the benefit of youths whose education has been neglected, the other is to enable youths engaged in trade to carry on further the education begun in the elementary schools.

In the assisted schools an elementary course in hygiene is to be included among the subjects of instruction. A course of

popular lectures on fever and dysentery has been given by the Resident Medical Officer of the Colonial Hospital, Dr. W. Best, followed by lectures on elementary hygiene by Dr. Strachan, Chief Medical Officer of the Colony

The grants in aid of schools for the year amounted to £1,562, which does not include an annual grant of £500 to the Hussey Charity Institution, nor the expenditure of £400 on account of the Government Technical school. The total expenditure on account of education amounted to £3,056.

Grants earned during the year 1900 by each Society, in comparison with those earned in the preceding year, are as under:—

Society.	Grants earned with respect to the year 1899.	Grants earned with respect to the year 1900.	Increase on Grants for 1899.	Decrease from Grants for 1899.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Anglican	642 15 6	716 12 6	73 17 0	—
Wesleyan	183 2 6	262 5 0	79 2 6	—
Roman Catholic ...	478 18 6	516 1 6	37 3 0	—
United Native African.	32 8 0	67 11 0	35 3 0	—
Total ...	1,337 4 6	1,562 10 0	225 5 6	—

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

His Excellency the Governor, Sir William MacGregor, K.C.M.G., C.B., M.D., proceeded on six months' leave of absence on the 1st July. The Government of the Colony was administered by Sir George Denton, K.C.M.G., from the 1st July to the 30th December.

Since Sir William MacGregor's return stringent anti-malarial measures have been taken in the Colony, and Europeans, as well as natives, have been educated in the prevention of malaria and other diseases by lectures delivered in Lagos by the Chief Medical Officer (which are intended to serve as a text book on which school teachers, sanitary inspectors, and nurses will be examined), also by Dr. W. H. Best, and at the out-stations by Dr. E. H. Read (Badagry) and Dr. T. E. Rice (Ibádan), the active operations being the administration of quinine, the use of gauze netting, and the attacking of mosquitos in their breeding ground.

LAGOS, 1900-1901.

Sir George Denton was appointed Administrator of the Gambia on the 3rd November, 1900, and left for Bathurst immediately after Sir William MacGregor returned to the Colony.

LEGISLATION.

During the year 20 Ordinances were passed, in the following order:—

(1.) Travelling and Field Allowance Ordinance, to alter and regulate the allowances made to officers when travelling.

(2.) The Imperial Loans Ordinance, to enable the Colony to borrow £792,500 from the Imperial Treasury.

(3.) The Supply Ordinance.

(4.) The Railway Loan Ordinance, to increase the borrowing powers of the Colony for the purposes of the railway.

(5.) The Foreign Recruiting Ordinance Amendment Ordinance, to supply a *casus omissus* in the original Ordinance.

(6.) The Licensing of Boats Ordinance, to remedy deficiencies experienced in the working of the repealed Ordinance.

(7.) The Oaths and Affirmation Ordinance, to allow witnesses to affirm instead of taking the oath.

(8.) The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance.

(9.) Quarantine Amendment Ordinance.

(10.) The Law Officer Ordinance, an Attorney-General taking the place of the Queen's Advocate.

(11.) The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance No. 2.

(12.) The Slander of Women Ordinance, making an imputation on a woman's chastity slanderous *per se*.

(13.) The Arms and Ammunition Exportation Ordinance, to prevent the exportation of arms to specified places.

(14.) The Sale of Drugs and Poisons Ordinance, to confine the sale of drugs to qualified persons.

(15.) The Wild Animals, Birds, and Fish Preservation Ordinance, to check the destruction of rare wild animals, &c.

(16.) Exportation of Arms Ordinance.

(17.) Patents Ordinance.

(18.) The Reprint of Statutes Ordinance, to provide a much-needed new edition of the laws of the Colony.

(19.) The Customs Tariff Ordinance 1899 Amendment Ordinance.

(20.) Criminal Procedure Amendment Ordinance, to remedy certain defects which experience brought to light in criminal procedure.

PUBLIC WORKS.

At a cost of £588 18*s.* 7*d.* a slipway has been erected at the beach signal station for the purpose of hauling up the lifeboat purchased during 1900 at a cost of £2,250. The slip is also used for the Government launches when in need of repairs, and effects a great saving in wear and tear, the deterioration of launches in the past having been very great.

The building of a Lunatic and Leper Asylum at Yaba was finished at a cost of £3,138. Quarters for out-stations, Jebu Ode and Shagamu, and Epé Gaol and Hospital were amongst other works completed during 1900.

A large portion of Kokomaiko and other swamp land in Lagos has been partly filled in, at a cost of £1,874. This work (for which prison labour was chiefly used in bringing the loaded trucks from near the beach across Five Cowrie Creek to the swamp) is slow, costly, and laborious.

In the out-districts, roads connecting the different towns and villages were cleared and kept open, at a cost of £2,240.

A sum of £3,000 was provided in the Estimates under Public Works Extraordinary for building new Courts of Justice, but owing to the paucity of funds it was considered necessary to delay work. For this same reason the extension of the workshop and offices of the Public Works Department have been postponed.

A well-equipped laboratory was completed during the year for the use of the Government chemist and for those engaged in medical work at the hospital, at a cost of £650.

Under the vote Public Works Extraordinary, a total sum of £16,928 was spent.

MINERALS.

Six prospecting licences were issued during the year.

Samples of minerals (quartz and other rocks), sand, &c., were examined and reported on by the Government chemist. Gold has been found, but not in paying quantities.

LAND.

Sale of Crown lands, and sums received on account of royalties and concessions, amounted to £185 only.

The method of dealing with swamps and insanitary spots in and about the town of Lagos by sale at a nominal price, under certain conditions of improvement, was continued during the year. Under these conditions the purchaser is required to fill the land to a fixed level with red earth, gravel, or sand, giving attention to adjoining streets, which are to be similarly treated as far as half their width. The whole of the work must be completed within a specified time, at the expiry of which, if

the condition of the land is satisfactory, a Crown grant is issued, if not, the land reverts to the Crown. Fifteen blocks were dealt with in this way during the year, various periods being assigned for reclamation and improvement. The results are far from satisfactory. The natives do not appreciate the condition as to level. As soon as the surface of the land appears above water, filling ceases. Nor can they be relied upon to use the material specified unless closely watched.

Several expropriations of land were carried out during the year. Additional area was secured for the railway at Ebute Metta and Iddo, and blocks of land in Victoria Lane were acquired for street improvements. At Apapa, on the north side of the Lagoon, 19 acres were expropriated, and the area laid out in suitable blocks for leasing to the principal firms in Lagos for beaching and storing mahogany.

The Commissioner of Lands reports that there is a growing demand for land among the natives, but they will not go afield.

The expenditure on account of the Land and Survey Department, to the 31st March, 1901, amounted to £1,900.

PENSIONS.

During the year pensions and gratuities amounting to £3,380 19*s.* 8*d.* were paid, while the pension list was relieved by the death of pensioners to the extent of £351.

AGRICULTURE.

Model farms have been established at Mamu and Oloke Meji under the supervision of a Superintendent of Forests. An Agricultural and Forest Department is maintained by the Government at a cost of £3,000 a year. The interior resources will, no doubt, be further developed, and the rich lands turned to better account now that the railway has been opened, passing, as it does, through the most important districts of the Protectorate.

In the district of Ikorodu in the Colony a sugar mill has been erected by a Mr. Ricketts, a West Indian negro, who conducts at Agbowa a mission under the auspices of the Colwyn Bay Institute. The mill is very primitive, being constructed of native wood, with a thatched roof, and three rollers only, worked by simple cog-wheels driven by hand labour.

Sugar cane is grown in different parts of the Colony, principally in low-lying lands, but no attempt has been made to manufacture sugar on a large scale. The natives simply eat the raw ripe cane. There is no doubt that sugar cane could be much more largely grown than is the case at present, and that sugar could be manufactured on a large scale, and profitably.

Cotton, which has for some years remained an article for home consumption only, will probably now form a large export of the

Colony, seeds of a superior staple of this product having been recently introduced into the Colony by Messrs. Elder, Dempster & Co., for distribution to farmers, who are now extensively cultivating this product. Several large plantations have cocoa under cultivation which is likely to result beneficially. The soil is suited to the production of most kinds of tropical economic plants.

Unfortunately, there are few natives who take to agricultural work, and it is deplorable that among the unemployed there are such a large number of able-bodied men who, because they have been taught at school to write a few ungrammatical sentences in a fairly legible hand, consider it beneath their dignity to follow agricultural pursuits. The capacity of the country still remains undeveloped, and this class of native could, if properly trained, materially help to open up the country in this particular way. Applications for employment in the Secretariat as clerks in Government establishments are constantly being received. It was recently suggested to a candidate that he should take up agricultural work. He was appointed a pupil on one of the model farms, but remained there a few weeks only. He resigned, stating as his reason for so doing that the work he had been given to do was far too hard and too degrading.

Before closing this report, I must refer to the most profound sorrow which was universally felt by the inhabitants of this Colony at the loss sustained, on the 22nd of January, by the death of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. The following is an extract of a minute containing His Excellency the Governor's high appreciation of the feeling of the community with regard to the demise of the Crown, published in the Government Gazette on February 8th:—

"The Governor cannot but feel that he has not been able to reply in sufficiently appreciative terms to the numerous deputations and to the large number of written communications he has received, from private individuals, from Societies, and from native Governments, expressing the deep grief they have felt at the death of our late venerable and beloved Queen. The Governor, therefore, takes this opportunity of informing the public generally that he has been deeply touched by the genuine display of heart-felt sorrow that has weighed so heavily on all classes of the community."

I have, &c.,

C. H. HARLEY MOSELEY,

Colonial Secretary.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of REVENUE for the YEARS 1899 and 1900-1.

Head of Receipt.	1899.	1900-1.	Increase.	Decrease.
Customs...	175,696 12 4	193,924 0 0	18,227 7 8	—
Harbour and Light House Dues	705 19 0	784 6 0	78 7 0	—
Licenses and Internal Revenue	6,744 8 0	6,695 17 6	—	48 10 6
Fees of Court, &c.	3,854 9 2	4,730 17 0	876 7 10	—
Postal Revenue	1,517 19 0	1,574 6 8	56 7 8	—
Rent of Government Property	463 1 11	405 3 5	—	57 18 6
Interest on Investments	2,177 13 8	2,210 12 5	32 18 9	—
Miscellaneous	1,229 10 2	956 19 6	—	272 10 8
Land Sales	402 5 2	185 0 9	—	217 4 5
Total	192,791 18 5	211,467 3 3	19,271 8 11	596 4 1

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of EXPENDITURE for the YEARS 1899 and 1900–1.

Head of Service.	1899.	1900-1.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Governor	5,094 12 8	5,245 10 11	150 18 3	—
Colonial Secretariat ...	3,545 4 3	3,688 16 9	143 12 6	—
Queen's Advocate... ...	913 3 10	827 1 7	—	86 2 3
Treasury	2,420 15 5	2,537 3 8	116 8 3	—
Customs	10,325 8 9	7,108 10 2	—	3,216 18 7
„ Special	—	17 0 0	17 0 0	—
Audit Office	1,244 13 8	1,218 17 11	—	25 15 9
Post „	1,763 17 9	1,843 15 10	79 18 1	—
Printing „	897 4 3	1,078 13 4	181 9 1	—
Harbour Office	2,506 0 10	2,757 6 4	251 5 6	—
„ „ Special ...	696 3 2	463 8 8	—	232 14 6
Government Vessels ...	3,276 14 10	4,224 9 4	947 14 6	—
„ „ Special	2,554 17 3	—	—	2,554 17 3
Engineer's Department ...	4,181 12 4	3,592 12 7	—	588 19 9
„ „ Special	5 5 0	—	—	5 5 0
Judicial Establishment ...	7,431 14 9	7,110 16 6	—	320 18 3
Ecclesiastical	40 0 0	—	—	40 0 0
Charitable	290 17 9	324 15 5	33 17 8	—
Educational	3,361 9 6	3,056 12 6	—	304 17 0
Hausa Force	30,465 16 9	24,978 15 8	—	5,487 1 1
Police	14,639 7 11	14,117 9 6	—	521 18 5
„ „ Special ...	1,034 5 4	—	—	1,034 5 4
Prisons	2,835 8 6	3,022 12 1	187 3 7	—
Medical	11,569 9 2	11,535 10 9		33 18 5
Sanitary	—	2,699 5 4	2,699 5 4	—
Agricultural and Forests...	407 19 0	1,834 5 6	1,426 6 6	—
Botanical station	599 18 10	588 15 9	—	11 3 1
Government Chemist ...	—	643 4 5	643 4 5	—
Registry Office	321 18 5	329 4 2	7 5 9	—
Transport	8,231 3 5	6,405 13 1	—	1,825 10 4
Carried forward...	120,655 3 4	111,250 7 9	6,885 9 5	16,290 5 0

LAGOS, 1900–1901.

Comparative Statement of Expenditure for the Years 1899 *and* 1900–1—cont.

Head of Service.	1899.	1900-1.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Brought forward...	120,655 3 4	111,250 7 9	6,885 9 5	16,290 5 0
Interior	12,109 4 5	10,480 11 7	—	1,628 12 10
„ Special	655 17 10	—	—	655 17 10
Miscellaneous	5,437 13 1	4,103 10 6	—	1,334 2 7
Pensions and Gratuities...	3,425 11 11	3,380 19 8	—	44 12 3
Rent...	442 7 2	624 18 6	182 11 4	—
Land and Survey Department.	997 6 7	1,900 14 9	903 8 2	—
Public Works Department	21,023 8 10	11,212 6 5	—	9,811 2 5
„ „ Recurrent	11,159 3 3	9,073 12 0	—	2,085 11 3
Charge on Account: Public Debt.	13,567 16 8	18,169 12 1	4,601 15 5	—
Contribution, Northern Nigeria.	—	—	—	—
Public Works Extraordinary.	28,711 14 1	16,928 2 9	—	11,783 11 4
Works Chargeable to Surplus Balances.	5,103 13 10	—	—	5,103 13 10
Total	223,289 1 0	187,124 16 0	12,573 4 4	48,737 9 4

RETURN showing DISTRIBUTION of MEDICAL OFFICERS and NURSES of the MEDICAL DEPARTMENT in LAGOS and OUT-STATIONS, with NUMBER of WARDS in the various HOSPITALS and BEDS assigned to each.

Lagos Hospital (*under the Resident Medical Officer*).

Ward.	Beds.	—
B	11	For native female patients.
C	17	For native male patients.
D	16	For native male patients.
E	10	For European patients.

Three nurses are attached to each ward and are assisted by the nurses in training.

Return showing Distribution of Medical Officers and Nurses—*cont.*

Small-pox Hospital (under the District Medical Officer).

No.	Ward.	Beds.	—
1	Male.	10	
2	,,	10	One male nurse.
3	Female.	8	One female nurse.
4	Convalescent.	8	

Badagry Hospital (in charge of a Medical Officer).

No.	Ward.	Beds.	—
1	European.	1	
2	Native.	5	One male nurse.

Epé Hospital (in charge of a Medical Officer).

No.	Ward.	Beds.	—
1	Native.	8	One male nurse and one district vaccinator.

Ibádan Dispensary (in charge of a Medical Officer).

One dispenser.

Ereko Dispensary (in charge of a Medical Officer).

One 2nd class dispenser.

LAGOS, 1900-1901.

Return showing Distribution of Medical Officers and Nurses—*cont.*

Yaba Leper Asylum (in charge of a Medical Officer).

No.	Ward.	Beds.	——
1	Male.	12	One male nurse.
2	Female.	12	One female nurse.

Yaba Lunatic Asylum.

Not yet opened.

Ebute Metta Dispensary (in charge of Medical Officer, Yaba Asylum).

One 2nd class dispenser.

Lagos Prison Hospital and Dispensary (in charge of Medical Officer, Ereko Dispensary).

No.	Ward.	Beds.	——
1	Male.	11	
2	Female.	2	One 2nd class dispenser.

Jebu Ode (supplied with Medicine Chest in charge of the Officer in Charge).

The Medical Officer of Epé visits Jebu Ode weekly and Shagamu and Ikorodu every fortnight. The vaccinators of Epé and Shagamu also attend at Jebu Ode and Ikorodu when necessary.

Shagamu (supplied with Medicine Chest in charge of the Officer in Charge).

One district vaccinator.

Return showing Distribution of Medical Officers and Nurses—*cont.*

Ikorodu, Saki, Meko, Ilesha and Ode Ondo.

These districts are supplied each with a medicine chest in charge of the Officer in Charge, or Travelling Commissioner, as the case may be.

Aro (in charge of a Medical Officer).

RETURN of IN and OUT-PATIENTS treated at the LAGOS HOSPITAL for THREE YEARS, 18981900.

—	1898.	1899.	1900
In-patients	682	694	782
Out-patients	4,572	4,294	5,298

LAGOS, 1900–1901.

RETURN showing PRINCIPAL ARTICLES of IMPORT into MARCH,

Articles.	1896.	£ s. d.	1897.	£ s. d.
Cotton goods ... pkgs.	19,683	350,258 6 8	15,361	297,636 2 10
Salt ... ... tons	5,251 16 2 0	7,434 8 8	4,645 8 0 0	6,341 0 6
Spirits ... ... galls.	1,223,207	57,763 9 10	1,216,948	60,783 11 5
Tobacco ... ... lbs.	749,350	15,127 5 7	817,169	16,181 16 0
Wines ... ... galls.	10,590	3,268 6 3	11,071	3,649 7 11
Other articles	—	137,623 0 1	—	385,918 18 2
Total...	—	901,474 17 1	—	770,510 16 10

RETURN showing PRINCIPAL ARTICLES of EXPORT from to MARCH,

Articles.	1896.	£ s. d.	1897.	£ s. d.
Mahogany ... ... logs	22	275 0 0	1,722	6,291 18 3
Palm kernels ... tons	47,649 6 3 3	343,206 3 3	41,298 11 1 0	306,834 0 10
Palm oil ... ... galls.	3,154,333	159,150 16 6	1,858,968	97,590 11 6
Rubber ... ... lbs.	6,484,365	347,721 2 11	4,458,327	283,184 17 2
Other Articles	—	124,910 2 4	—	117,073 3 2
Total	—	975,263 5 0	—	810,974 10 11

LAGOS during FIVE YEARS, 1896–1899, and APRIL, 1900, to 1901. LAGOS, 1900–1901.

1898.		1899.		April, 1900, to March, 1901.	
19,238	£ 339,778 13 9	14,939	£ 305,517 4 8	13,240	£ 336,980 2 8
6,336 14 0 16	8,480 10 7	5,846 11 2 1	7,119 7 2	5,766 17 3	7,990 0 9
1,354,093	76,611 0 2	1,042,574	61,489 3 10	907,657	58,068 12 0
869,111	19,240 16 1	946,684	19,964 7 0	922,060	18,378 16 10
8,449	3,103 15 9	9,302	12,274 3 3	7,942	3,106 1 1
—	461,136 9 10	—	560,230 11 11	—	382,005 13 7
—	908,351 6 2	—	966,594 17 10	—	806,529 6 11

LAGOS during FIVE YEARS, 1896–1899, and APRIL, 1900, 1901.

1898.		1899.		April, 1900, to March, 1901.	
3,406	£ 12,944 12 8	7,680	£ 34,737 19 3	10,407	£ 44,873 9 7
42,774 18 0 16	362,539 4 3	49,501 7 3 2	412,817 6 10	47,738 8 0 10	3,9,308 4 11
1,889,939	97,337 15 10	3,292,881	168,457 14 6	2,787,127	181,415 0 0
3,778,266	285,409 14 6	1,993,525	160,314 16 4	361,931	29,385 5 2
—	124,097 15 9	—	139,606 5 9	—	176,275 18 8
—	882,329 3 0	—	915,934 2 8	—	831,257 18 4

IMPORT and EXPORT of SPECIE during FIVE YEARS, 1896–1899, and APRIL, 1900, to MARCH, 1901.

Import.

1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	April, 1900, to March, 1901.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
138,298 8 0	69,504 13 9	148,820 0 0	160,325 0 0	59,400 0 0

Export.

1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	April, 1900, to March, 1901.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
68,870 5 1	69,795 18 6	61,217 15 5	81,576 10 5	126,020 3 4

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 400.

LAGOS.

REPORT FOR 1902.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1903.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

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1903.

[Cd. 1768-5.] *Price* 2½*d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
377	Northern Nigeria	1901
378	British Guiana	1901–1902
379	Mauritius	1901
380	Basutoland	1901–1902
381	Southern Nigeria	1901
382	Trinidad and Tobago	1901–1902
383	Bermuda	1902
384	St. Lucia	1901
385	St. Vincent	,,
386	Falkland Islands	1902
387	Gibraltar	,,
388	Weihaiwei	,,
389	Sierra Leone	,,
390	British Honduras	,,
391	Gambia	,,
392	St. Helena	,,
393	Hong Kong	,,
394	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
395	Seychelles	,,
396	Ceylon	,,
397	Gold Coast	,,
398	Barbados	1902–1903
399	Fiji	1902

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand...	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas...	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific...	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas...	Fibre Industry
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.

No. 400.

LAGOS.

GOVERNOR SIR W. MACGREGOR to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,

Lagos,

28th July, 1903.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Report on the Blue Book of the Colony of Lagos for the year 1902, prepared by the Honourable C. H. Harley Moseley, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

W. MACGREGOR,

Governor.

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875 Wt 21109 10/03 D & S 5 15596

REPORT ON THE LAGOS BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1902.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The statements of revenue and expenditure cover the financial year from the 1st April, 1901, to the 31st March, 1902, while the rest of the returns are compiled for the calendar year 1902. The revenue for 1901-2 amounted to £257,124, exclusive of railway £17,898 for seven months, or a total of £275,022; and the expenditure was £213,855, exclusive of railway £21,640, or a total of £235,495.

The general revenue, exclusive of railway, has exceeded the estimate by £25,264. This satisfactory result is largely due to the opening up of interior roads, and to the development and increase of trade throughout the whole Protectorate due to the railway, which has materially assisted commerce. The year has been a most favourable one for business interests, the volume of trade having exceeded that of any previous year.

Of the total amount of revenue collected, £275,022, the receipts under Customs are £233,049, the balance being made up as follows :—

Receipts.	Amount.
	£
Harbour and Lighthouse Dues	789
Licences &c.	7,199
Fees of Court &c.	4,862
Postal Revenue	1,991
Rent of Government Property	448
Interest on Investments	2,198
Miscellaneous	6,379
Land Sales	209
Railway	17,898

The general advance of the revenue of the Colony will be seen from the following table, the revenue having reached its highest point in 1901-2 :—

1897.	1898.	1899.	1900-01.	1901-02.
£	£	£	£	£
177,421	206,444	192,791	211,467	257,124

A Parliamentary grant of £10,000 was made to Lagos in 1898, which is included in the revenue for that year.

In 1899 the duty on spirits was raised from 2*s.* to 3*s.* a gallon, and in the same year on other articles as shown below :—

Salt from 5*s.* to 20*s.* a ton.
Tobacco, manufactured, from 3*d.* to 8*d.* a lb.
„ unmanufactured, from 3*d.* to 4*d.* a lb.
Cigars, from 5*s.* to 10*s.* a thousand.
Cigarettes, „ 3*d.* a lb. to 1*s.* a thousand.
Guns, „ 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* each.
Gunpowder, „ 2*d.* to 6*d.* a lb.
Kerosene, „ 5 per cent. *ad valorem* to 2*d.* a gallon.
Cartridges, „ „ „ „ 2*s.* a hundred.
Kola Nuts, „ „ „ „ 2*s.* a lb.
Lead, „ „ „ „ 1*d.* „
Sugar, „ „ „ „ 1*s.* a cwt.
Tea, „ „ „ „ 1*d.* a lb.
Wine, Sparkling, from 2*s.* a gallon to 3*s.* a gallon.

In March, 1901, the *ad valorem* duty on imported goods generally was increased from 5 per cent. to 10 per cent.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years 1900–1 and 1901–2 under each head :—

Statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the Years

—	Revenue 1900–1.			Revenue 1901–2.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Customs	193,924	0	0	233,049	1	6
Harbour Wharf and Lighthouse Dues	784	6	0	789	7	0
Licences and Internal Revenue not otherwise Classified.	6,695	17	6	7,199	3	3
Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services and Re-imbursements in aid.	4,730	17	0	4,862	2	6
Postal Revenue	1,574	6	8	1,990	10	2
Rent of Government Property	405	3	5	448	0	10
Interest on Investments	2,210	12	5	2,197	19	9
Miscellaneous	956	19	6	6,379	3	0
Total	211,282	2	6	256,915	8	0
Land Sales	185	0	9	208	11	4
Railway Revenue	—			17,897	12	1
Total Revenue	211,467	3	3	275,021	11	5

ended 31st MARCH, 1900-1, and 31st MARCH, 1901-2.

—	Expenditure 1900-1.			Expenditure 1901-2.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Charge on Account of Public Debt ...	18,169	12	1	50,309	13	5
Pensions and Gratuities	3,380	19	8	3,772	12	1
Governor	5,245	10	11	5,701	19	0
Colonial Secretariat	3,688	16	9	3,070	5	0
Interior	10,480	11	7	9,137	10	8
Attorney-General	827	1	7	928	16	10
Treasury	2,537	3	8	2,168	10	2
Customs	7,108	10	2	6,239	17	0
„ Special	17	0	0	—		
Audit Office	1,218	17	11	1,291	1	9
Harbour Office	2,757	6	4	2,491	1	8
„ „ Special...	463	8	8	—		
Government Vessels	4,224	9	4	4,332	10	8
Engineers	3,592	12	7	4,313	15	4
Judicial Establishment	7,110	16	6	7,605	18	7
Hausa Force	24,978	15	8	23,308	7	10
Police	14,117	9	6	14,507	6	4
Prisons	3,022	12	1	3,132	4	10
Medical	11,535	10	9	14,057	4	6
Educational	3,056	12	6	3,903	13	0
Miscellaneous	4,103	10	6	4,268	13	8
Post Office	1,843	15	10	1,455	13	9
Printing Office	1,078	13	4	1,099	5	11
Registry Office	329	4	2	—		
Transport	6,405	13	1	—		
Agricultural and Forests	1,834	5	6	2,327	7	1
Botanical Station	588	15	9	936	18	4
Laboratory	643	4	5	705	4	11
Land and Survey Department ...	1,900	14	9	2,728	3	7
Rent	624	18	6	766	10	7
Charitable	324	15	5	261	19	11
Sanitary—Board of Health	2,699	5	4	2,729	16	2
Public Works Department	11,212	6	5	12,339	19	0
Public Works Recurrent	9,073	12	0	9,332	10	4
Total	170,196	13	3	199,224	11	11
Public Works Extraordinary... ...	16,928	2	9	14,630	11	1
Railway Department	—			21,640	0	0
Total Expenditure ...	187,124	16	0	235,495	3	0

Public Debt.

Ordinance No. 13 of 1902 was passed by the Legislative Council to enable £207,300 to be borrowed, raising the total borrowing powers to £1,261,000. The whole of this sum has not yet been spent, but on the 31st December, 1902, £792,500 had been borrowed from the Imperial Treasury and £278,976 through the Crown Agents, and advances from revenue account in the Colony amounted to £116,199, making a total expenditure on account of the railway, of £1,187,675.

The whole of the debt of the Colony has been incurred on account of the railway, the tramway, and the bridges connecting Lagos and the tramway with the railway terminus on Iddo Island, save £5,036 expended on the railway survey from Ibadan to the Niger.

In connection with the railway it is estimated that an additional £50,000 will be required to build a wharf at the Iddo terminus sufficiently large to accommodate two steamers. This additional sum will raise the indebtedness of the Colony in round numbers to £1,300,000.

The payments made from the revenue of the Colony on account of the public debt from 1898 to 31st December, 1902 (including interest and repayment of capital) have been £117,202.

The following is a statement of revenue and expenditure for the last five years :—

—	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900–1.	1901–2.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ...	177,421	206,444	192,791	211,467	275,022
Expenditure ...	182,668	203,802	223,289	187,124	235,495

Assets and Liabilities.

The statement of assets and liabilities on the 31st March, 1902, shows a surplus of £79,437 17*s.* 7*d.*, the excess of assets twelve months previously having been £39,911 9*s.* 2*d.*

Taxes.

The only tax imposed during the year was a capitation tax on labourers engaged for service outside the Colony. The amount received from this tax during nine months of the year, which formed part of the general revenue, was £4,222, although it was expected to yield £2,000 only. The tax cannot, however, be

counted on as a permanent source of revenue, as it is hoped and expected that all surplus labour will be given employment in our own Colony and Protectorate.

Permission to engage labourers was granted only to the Gold Coast Government, the men engaged being employed on railway construction work in that Colony.

IMPORTS.

1902 was a large importing year for many articles, particularly for Manchester, Birmingham, and Sheffield goods. Although towards the end of the year stocks accumulated, an increased business was done by most of the merchants as compared with the previous year. Heavy imports naturally follow upon large exports where the latter consist of forest and farm products; and 1902 was no exception to the rule.

Success and security in business in Lagos depends largely upon the agent employed. Under the peculiar system of unlimited credit the local merchant orders large quantities of goods, and realizes on them as quickly as possible and often below cost. This fact should not be lost sight of, as the system leads to heavy losses and is most detrimental to trade.

The total value of imports was £895,223, which shows an increase over the previous year of £170,385, exclusive of specie, the increase of which during 1902 amounted to £23,075.

The actual improvement, however, was more in the business done and profits earned, the year having been a most favourable one for the commercial interests of Lagos, the volume of trade exceeding that of many years.

Many letters of enquiry on matters relating to trade have been received at the Secretariat from manufacturers and others interested in extending their business relations with the Colony. Every effort is made to supply information asked for. It must be borne in mind that the Colonial Secretary's Department cannot undertake any responsibility as to the financial status of persons whose names are furnished as likely or willing to act as agents in the Colony for business houses abroad, but the Department will at all times be happy to receive communications from any firms or individuals interested in trade with the Colony, and willing to give such information as may be obtainable.

The following comparative statemeut shows the imports to Lagos during 1901 and 1902 :—

Articles.	1901.		1902.		1902. Increase.		1902. Decrease.	
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Cotton goods	—	327,117 6 9	—	436,296 18 1	—	109,179 11 4	—	—
Tobacco ... ... lbs.	873,889	18,933 15 10	1,117,133	23,179 5 1	243,244	4,245 9 3	—	—
Spirits .. ... galls.	955,244	60,888 13 2	1,260,885	77,827 11 4	307,141	16,938 18 2	—	—
Salt ... .. tons	6,386 16 0 11	9,019 2 4	6,028 3 0 17	7,356 1 2	—	—	358 12 3 22	1,663 1 2
Other articles	—	308,878 4 8	—	350,563 7 11	—	41,684 3 3	—	—
	—	724,838 2 9	—	895,223 3 7	—	172,048 2 0	—	1,663 1 2
Specie	—	12,446 16 10	—	35,522 1 8	—	23,075 4 10	—	—
Total	—	737,284 19 7	—	930,745 5 3	—	195,123 6 10	—	1,663 1 2

Particulars are also given showing the increases under Other Articles :—

Articles.	1901.			1902.			Increase, 1902.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Shooks and hoop-iron ...	14,941	13	8	31,840	5	1	16,898	11	5
Silk goods	6,058	5	4	11,119	16	1	5,061	10	9
Beads	13,599	16	6	18,559	1	0	4,959	4	6
Gunny bags	7,211	3	10	12,042	8	3	4,831	4	5
Haberdashery	15,120	7	4	18,518	12	2	3,398	4	10
Soap	3,949	13	8	6,237	17	11	2,288	4	3
Earthenware	3,870	5	7	6,030	0	11	2,159	15	4
Enamelware	896	8	9	2,983	17	6	2,087	8	9

EXPORTS.

The exports in 1902 amounted to £1,259,683, being an increase over the previous year of £461,652 exclusive of specie. The export of palm kernels was exceptionally large, the European market price being considerably above the average, and the business done by the exporting houses was generally good. The appointment by the Government of a European Produce Inspector improved the quality of the kernels shipped, and, taken all round, the year's trade in this article was most satisfactory, the prices realized being better and profits larger than for many years. The loss in weight in kernels has decreased from about 10 per cent. to 6 per cent., and the amount of shell and other impurities from 10 per cent. to about 7½ per cent., the result being that the merchant was in a position to pay considerably higher prices than during previous years.

Shipments of palm oil were also well above the average and prices throughout the year ruled high. The European market in palm oil, however, was not nearly so steady as in palm kernels, and as this product is more speculative, returns of individual merchants vary considerably. On the whole exporters had a fair year, and the well known quality of Lagos palm oil was fully maintained.

The average prices of kernels and oil during the year 1902 as compared with the previous year were as follows :—

Month.	Palm Kernels.				Palm Oil.			
	1901.		1902.		1901.		1902.	
	Per ton.		Per ton.		Per ton.		Per ton.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
January	7 17 6		9 15 0		18 7 6		17 15 0	
February	7 15 0		10 5 0		18 0 0		18 7 6	
March	7 10 0		10 7 3		17 5 0		18 0 0	

Month.	Palm Kernels.		Palm Oil.	
	1901.	1902.	1901.	1902.
	Per ton.	Per ton.	Per ton.	Per ton.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
April	7 9 6	10 0 0	15 7 6	16 10 0
May	7 10 6	10 5 0	15 5 0	16 17 6
June	7 9 3	10 6 3	15 2 6	17 15 0
July	7 9 3	10 0 0	15 10 0	17 10 0
August	8 4 3	10 1 3	15 12 6	17 2 6
September ...	8 7 6	10 2 6	16 15 0	17 10 0
October	8 11 6	9 5 6	17 0 0	18 0 0
November	8 5 0	8 10 0	16 2 6	18 0 0
December	8 16 3	8 12 6	16 0 0	16 17 6

In mahogany a very satisfactory year may be reported, the most satisfactory in fact in the history of the mahogany trade of the Colony. Large quantities were exported and record prices were obtained at the auctions held throughout the year. Owing to short supplies of Cuban and American mahogany, African wood was in great demand both in England and America, and Lagos timber in particular was largely bought. Although high prices and keen competition ruled in Lagos, the exporters made fair profits, the gradual rise of market in England all the year helping them considerably Many logs, which in previous years it would not have paid to ship, were exported during the year 1902 and found keen buyers in Europe. The prices per superficial foot during 1901 and 1902 are shown in the following return :—

Month.	1901.	1902.
January	1*d.*	1*d.*
February	1*d.*	$\frac{3}{4}$*d.*
March	1*d.*	1*d.*
April	1*d.*	1*d.*
May	1*d.*	1$\frac{1}{4}$*d.*
June	1*d.*	1$\frac{1}{4}$*d.*
July	1$\frac{1}{4}$*d.*	1$\frac{1}{4}$*d.*
August	1$\frac{1}{4}$*d.*	1$\frac{1}{4}$*d.*
September	1$\frac{1}{4}$*d.*	1$\frac{1}{4}$*d.*
October	1$\frac{1}{4}$*d.* to 1$\frac{1}{2}$*d.*	1$\frac{1}{2}$*d.*
November	1$\frac{1}{4}$*d.* to 1$\frac{1}{2}$*d.*	1$\frac{1}{2}$*d.* to 1$\frac{3}{4}$*d.*
December	1$\frac{1}{4}$*d.* to 1$\frac{1}{2}$*d.*	1$\frac{1}{2}$*d.* to 1$\frac{3}{4}$*d.*

The European market for cocoa was very disappointing during the year, and, although a fair quantity was exported, most of it was ungraded and badly prepared. Business done in this line on the whole was very unsatisfactory, the home price

falling towards the end of the season when the principal portion of the year's crop was on the way to Europe. Lagos cocoa is of very good quality, but planters do not pay proper attention to curing, and consequently its standard in the home market is not as high as it otherwise would be.

Generally, prices realized on nearly all exports were better and profits larger than they have been for many years. There is abundant evidence of increasing prosperity in the trade of the Colony, which is now in a flourishing condition with great possibilities for the future.

Some of the principal business houses have established branches at Abeokuta and Ibadan, and there is no doubt that the railway will prove an important factor in the future trade of the Colony.

Of trade generally the Collector of Customs reports "the year was one of the best the Colony has ever experienced both as regards imports and exports."

AGRICULTURE.

The Government, recognizing the need of encouraging agriculture of every kind, has started a model farm at Oloke Meji with the object of promoting the cultivation of the many tropical products which can be grown in the Colony and Protectorate.

The re-establishment of cotton growing has been received everywhere with a good deal of interest, and planters seem to realise the importance of this industry, especially in the Egba country, where the people have availed themselves of the assistance of the Forest and Agricultural Department. Several thousand acres have been planted in cotton at Abeokuta. That the present is an opportune time for embarking in cotton cultivation does not admit of question; that it is a suitable industry is incontestable. To assist in establishing it a grant has been made by the Government of £1,000. In addition to Government assistance, the British Cotton Growing Association, having for its principal object the extension of the growth and cultivation of cotton in British colonial dependencies and protectorates, has expressed its intention to place ginning and pressing machines at the disposal of cotton growers. The Association has also undertaken to buy any cotton which may be grown. These facts to those who are disposed to take up cotton growing are full of promise.

Cotton was an established industry in years past, but owing to low prices the natives ceased to plant for export, but have continued to grow sufficient for home use. In 1869, the cotton

exported amounted in value to £76,957. The exports for ten years from 1870 to 1879 were as under :—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1870	53,778
1871	29,157
1872	16,249
1873	51,618
1874	31,580
1875	19,841
1876	13,974
1877	12,437
1878	2,755
1879	526

The principal supply came from the Egba country. The Egbas, the most progressive people in Yoruba-land, are perfectly willing to grow cotton, but they want to be certain that the demand will be permanent. They have been greatly discouraged by their past experience in coffee growing, for which they went in largely, prices having gone down after they had succeeded in obtaining excellent crops. It has been explained to them that cotton, if cultivated carefully, will always realize a price that will pay them. They have agreed to plant largely, and in the Egba country alone four thousand acres will be shortly planted out.

Professor Hoffman writes :

"The very finest grade of cotton could be grown here that would be superior to any American cotton.

"From Oyo to Ogbomosho the lands are similar. I found the Alafin of Oyo very anxious to introduce cotton growing among his people. These people are thrifty and anxious for me to help them to improve their lands. What impressed me most was to see what progress these people have made in farming with such a rude piece of farming implement as their primitive hoe. I have convinced them that with the introduction of improved modern agricultural implements, one man with a bullock and plough could do more work on the farm than ten men working with their primitive hoe. This information appealed to them at once.

"The Yoruba country is the greatest agricultural centre in West Africa, and is capable of producing diversified crops, cocoa, sugar cane, English vegetables, &c. From Oyo to the Northern Nigeria boundary is a most excellent country for stock raising, including poultry culture.

"While in Oyo I made some butter from the milk of native cows, equal in flavour to the best American butter. I hope to

see the time soon come when the wonderful agricultural resources of the country will be developed on scientific agricultural lines."

On a suggestion made by the Director of the Royal Gardens at Kew, and approved by the Secretary of State, Mr. Foster, the Curator of this Colony, proceeded to the West Indies to visit the principal Botanical Stations for the purpose of enlarging his knowledge of the cultivation of valuable tropical economic plants, and of observing the system and arrangements pursued at the Botanical Stations in those Colonies. Mr. Foster procured such plants as he thought were suitable for cultivation in this Colony; and these have been planted in the Botanical Garden at Oloke Meji, and are doing well.

Professor Hoffman has travelled extensively in the Yoruba country since his arrival in the Colony. He has succeeded in gaining the confidence of the chiefs and farmers, and interested them in agricultural work. He reports that the natives of the country visited by him are keen farmers, enthusiastic over the idea of cotton growing and agricultural work generally, very intelligent, and anxious to get all the latest views on farming.

It is admitted that the prosperity of the people of this Colony depends largely on the produce of the soil, yet agriculture has for years been in a backward state, planters of the present day being no more skilled in this science than their fathers before them. Ignorance has hitherto created a dislike for occupation as a farmer, and it is hoped that as this interesting science becomes better known, the people will become educated to the fact that agriculture is one of the most dignified occupations which can possibly be taken up in life.

It is hoped that the Agricultural Show to be held in 1903 will enable me to report more favourably on this subject in my report for next year.

LANDS.

Efforts have during the past year been largely directed towards improvement in the instruments of land tenure.

The first step was the carrying out of a skeleton survey, and the complete co-ordination of the town of Lagos. It is now possible to refer any point on the island to the origin of the Observatory by means of co-ordinates.

Twenty-two grants have been issued on the new system; the majority of them being for land successfully reclaimed, the rest cancelling and revoking original grants which were found to be inaccurate.

Considerable improvement in the filling up of swamp allotments is reported—the result of closer supervision of the work, and probably of the example of the successful reclamations

carried out by the Public Works Department. Further sales of swamp land were, therefore, made by public auction. Prices realised shew the extraordinary demand for land in Lagos.

The number of encroachments on public streets in Lagos town was considerable; but it is satisfactory to be able to state that the cases were, with few exceptions, not of recent standing, and that the public are becoming aware of the necessity for maintaining a uniform building line in streets. Many applications are received for the definition of the proper alignment.

The removal of the Ebute Metta people from the expropriated railway area was effected during the early part of the year. Blocks were allotted as compensation in the New Town Site, which was laid out on model lines.

Most of the country field work effected was undertaken for geodetic and topographic reasons. The survey made for the Railway from Lagos to Ibadan is most valuable as furnishing a backbone for the extension of geodetic surveys and triangulation throughout the Colony and Protectorate.

Traverses of the coast line east from Lagos for about eighty miles and westward to the French boundary were carried out, the former with a view to ascertaining the feasibility of erecting a telegraph line to Forcados.

Minerals.

One prospecting licence was issued during the year as compared with six the previous year. No mineral worth working has as yet been discovered.

Shipping.

The Collector of Customs reports as follows:—

"Whilst the number of the British steamers has fallen off, the number of foreign ones has very materially increased. This is accounted for by the unprecedented activity of the Woermann Line during the past year (223 German steamers during 1902 as against 124 in 1901), whilst the British steamers numbered only 321 in 1902 as against 331 during 1901.

"We have now no less than seven German branch steamers belonging to this harbour, and a new one shortly expected. There are nine English ones."

The following table gives the number of vessels entered and cleared during the past five years:—

Vessels Entered.

Nationality.	1898.			1899.			1900.			1901.			1902.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
British	298	299,771	10,352	300	346,757	12,113	358	411,281	13,774	331	379,762	13,292	324	364,400	13,883
Foreign	181	110,333	5,279	191	133,710	5,904	168	120,590	4,586	127	105,966	4,651	224	216,539	9,176
Total ...	479	410,104	15,631	491	480,467	18,017	526	531,871	18,360	458	485,728	17,943	548	580,939	23,059

Vessels Cleared.

Nationality.	1898.			1899.			1900.			1901.			1902.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
British	296	297,158	10,257	315	349,655	12,298	356	411,920	13,700	326	367,867	12,811	319	356,251	13,858
Foreign	183	115,116	5,389	204	138,706	6,286	169	119,801	4,498	141	122,203	5,306	216	207,267	9,023
Total ...	479	412,274	15,646	519	488,361	18,584	525	531,721	18,198	467	490,070	18,117	535	563,518	22,881

LEGISLATION.

During the year 25 ordinances were passed in the following order :—

(1.) The Foreign Jurisdiction Ordinance, to obviate certain legal difficulties which might arise in connexion with the exercise of the jurisdiction of the Crown in the adjacent territories.

(2.) The Patents Ordinance correcting a small error in the original Ordinance of 1900.

(3.) The Native Labour Ordinance, to restrict and regulate the recruiting of labourers for service outside the Colony.

(4.) The Pensions Ordinance, defining the scale of pensions to be granted to officers in the colonial service.

(5.) The annual Supply and Appropriation Ordinance.

(6.) The West African Frontier Force Ordinance, making certain amendments in the original Ordinance of 1901 in connexion with the command of the Lagos Battalion.

(7.) The Corporal Punishments Limitation Ordinance.

(8.) The Sale of Drugs and Poisons Ordinance, re-enacting with amendments the Ordinance of 1900, repealed in 1901.

(9.) The Protection of Trees Ordinance, to prevent the destruction of trees on Crown lands and public open spaces.

(10.) The Trustee Investment Ordinance, to comply with the conditions imposed by the Imperial Treasury with regard to the Investment of trust funds in Lagos Government Securities.

(11.) The Foreign Employment (Administration) Ordinance, making a verbal amendment in the original Ordinance of 1898.

(12.) The Imprisonment Definition Ordinance, providing that a sentence of imprisonment shall be deemed to be imprisonment with or without hard labour at the discretion of the Court.

(13.) The Railway Loan Ordinance, referred to above.

(14.) The Forests Ordinance, making regulations for the protection of the forests of the Colony.

(15.) The West African Frontier Force Ordinance, making verbal amendments of the original Ordinance.

(16.) The Sale of Drugs Ordinance, making a verbal amendment of No. 8.

(17.) The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance.

(18.) The Real Estate Administration Ordinance, putting real estate on the same footing as personalty in certain cases.

(19.) The Small Estates Administration Ordinance, rendering unnecessary the taking out of letters of administration in certain cases.

(20.) The Forests Ordinance No. 2, amending the original Ordinance No. 14.

(21.) The Patents Ordinance, amending the original Ordinance of 1900.

(22.) The Trade Marks Ordinance, making provision for international protection arrangements.

(23.) The Designs Ordinance, providing for registration of designs.

(24.) The Supreme Court Ordinance, making certain changes in the constitution of the Full Court.

(25.) The Vaccination Ordinance, amending the original Ordinance of 1873.

EDUCATION.

Both primary and secondary education are given principally in schools connected with the different Christian missionary societies, namely, the Church Missionary Society, the Wesleyan Missionary Society, and the Roman Catholic missions. To these societies the Government make grants-in-aid on the principle of payment by results. The Government have also recently established elementary schools for the Mohammedan and pagan sections of the community at Lagos, and in the Eastern and Western Districts.

The administration of public education is vested in the Board of Education, consisting of the Governor, the members of the Legislative Council, the Inspector of Schools, and four school managers nominated in that behalf by the Governor.

The number of schools inspected in 1902 is 34, comprising 66 distinct departments, that is, 27 infant, 28 primary, 3 secondary and 8 industrial.

The numbers on the registers are :—

Society.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Anglican	1,408	515	1,923
Wesleyan	648	219	867
Roman Catholic	454	431	885
United Native African	189	76	265
Government Moslem and Pagan ...	185	7	192
Hussey Charity	41	—	41
Total	2,925	1,248	4,173

The total number on the registers for the preceding year was 4,310; there is thus a slight falling-off of 137 scholars.

The average attendance during the year is 3,275, that is, 76·06 per cent. of the enrolment, in comparison with 78·5 per cent. in the preceding year.

The total income and expenditure of the schools are, respectively, £5,108 7*s.* 0¾*d.* and £4,845 19*s.* 1*d.* Although there is an excess of income over expenditure, yet, speaking generally, the schools lead a hand-to-mouth existence. The receipts in school fees and Government grants do not cover the expenditure, and the balance has to be met from the funds of the different churches and missionary societies with which the schools are connected.

The Government grants paid to the schools in 1902 compare with the payments of the preceding year as hereunder :—

Society.	Grants earned with respect to the Year 1901.	Grants earned with respect to the Year 1902.	Increase on Grants for 1901.	Decrease on Grants for 1901.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Anglican	713 3 0	646 13 0	—	66 10 0
Wesleyan	222 14 0	186 16 6	—	53 17 6
Roman Catholic ...	567 2 6	578 10 6	11 8 0	—
United Native African	50 16 0	65 6 0	14 10 0	—
Total	1,553 15 6	1,459 6 0	—	94 9 6

The total number of boys receiving secondary instruction is about 170, and the instruction includes the three highest standards of the primary schools together with a few specific subjects in addition. The Church Missionary Society has established a secondary school for girls, on much the same line as the secondary schools for boys.

Technical instruction is given in the Hussey Charity Institution, which is supported by a grant-in-aid of £500 from the Government and by private property left in trust by the late Rebecca Hussey of London for the maintenance and education of alien boys who have found an asylum in Lagos. Instruction is given in smithy work, carpentry, and joinery, and the workshops are open to boys who have been educated in the other schools of the Colony.

Industrial instruction in farming and agriculture is given to the boys in the boys' school of the Roman Catholic settlement at Topo, and domestic economy is taught in the three girls' schools at Lagos and Topo, in connexion with this society.

There has recently been founded at Lagos an institute for the encouragement of the study of literature, science, and art. Every person of the age of 14 years is eligible for membership—the object being to provide for the youth of the Colony a meeting place for mutual improvement and rational amusements, and to bring together all classes of society with a view to promoting among them kindly understanding and intelligent sympathy. The present number of members is about 110, and the organisation comprises a reading-room and a lecture hall, offers facilities for the holding of meetings at which papers are read, lectures delivered, and discussions held on topics of general interest, and it also promises to contain a valuable collection of books and other appliances for study.

The general results of the educational efforts now put forth are not altogether satisfactory. There is much demand for a better educated class of native youths in Government offices and mercantile stores. The Inspector of Schools has pointed out that this demand cannot be supplied unless the teachers employed in the schools are better educated and receive special training for their work. There is no doubt that the Government and the people will before long have to face the problem of the re-construction of public education. The present system, unsatisfactory as it is in other respects, appears to be doing most serious harm in its producing in the youth a disinclination for manual and industrial work. As soon as a lad has attended school for a few years he begins to look with disdain on manual work, and, being unfit for any other occupation, he eventually subsides to the condition of a mere parasite on society. Private efforts are being made to remedy this deplorable state of things, but they are powerless to cope with the evil. The Colony would no doubt derive a great advantage from a system of public education in which practical training played a considerable, though of course not the only, part.

The scheme for the teaching of sanitation in schools which was passed by the Board of Education on the 21st of February, 1902, was put into operation during the year. No less than 388 scholars from six schools were presented for examination, and the results were most encouraging for a first beginning. At the last annual competitive exhibition of school work, 44 pupils from the primary and secondary schools competed in this subject, and the jurors of the competition reported that "the majority of them showed sound knowledge of the elementary laws of health."

Hospitals.

There are three, one in Lagos, one at Badagry, and one at Epe. During 1902, 10,091 persons were treated at these hospitals (6,399 in Lagos, and 3,692 at the other hospitals).

Dispensaries exist in Lagos (2), Ebute Metta (1), and Ibadan (1), of the benefits of which natives are availing themselves in gradually increasing numbers.

Asylums.

An asylum for lunatics has been built at Yaba, but is not yet complete. Pending its completion, the buildings have been utilized, for the past two years, as quarters for railway officials, but it is expected that in a short time it will be available for the safekeeping and treatment of the mentally afflicted.

There is a leper asylum at Yaba, with eleven inmates.

Poor Houses.

There is a small home for paupers supported by a Government grant.

Public Health and Sanitation.

The diseases most affecting the death-rate are :—

1. Malarial fever ;
2. Lung complaints in the rainy season ; and
3. Bowel complaints.

The first and third causes are being combated with encouraging success. The second depends to a great extent on the neglect of the native to protect the body against rain and cold.

The lectures on elementary sanitation, which are constantly being delivered, are doing much to enlighten the natives on matters relating to preservation of health, and have excited great interest. The subject is also taught in schools.

The town of Lagos, with its suburbs Ebute Metta, and Iddo (the railway terminus), is divided for sanitary purposes into five districts, each in charge of a Sanitary Inspector. The Inspectors are under the charge of three Health Officers, two for Lagos and one for Ebute Metta.

During the past five or six years there has been marked improvement in the sanitary condition of the town, though there is a very great deal yet to be accomplished in the direction of sanitary improvement—notably the institution of an adequate method of sewage disposal, and of surface drainage.

The water supply has been markedly improved during the past three years by the construction of wells of a new type, and the careful storage of water in mosquito-proof iron tanks.

Efforts to combat malaria have met with encouraging success; while small-pox—endemic in this country—has almost vanished from Lagos town. There is, however, a constant influx of infected persons from outlying districts, and so cases must be expected, every now and then, to occur in the town of Lagos itself.

The construction of the town, where some 40,000 persons are collected mainly in native huts, the over-crowding of these latter, the absence of any proper method of disposing of household slop water, of surface drainage, and of sewage disposal—all constitute obstacles to the attainment of even a moderately high standard of sanitation; but that improvement under new and scientific methods has, as before remarked, been markedly in evidence during the past six years, is a fact beyond dispute.

Infant mortality is very high, but has sunk during the past six years from 45 to 37 per cent. (during the first year of life), since the attention of the natives has been directed to the taking of precautions against malaria, and to the proper feeding and care of infants—for it is chiefly to malaria and improper feeding that the fearful mortality among infants and children is due.

A comparative statement of monthly rainfall in inches is appended :—

Month.	1900.	1901.	1902.
January	1·40	·75	Nil
February	3·80	·00	1·82
March	2·65	6·10	2·17
April	10·92	2·65	5·09
May	11·85	13·05	4·62
June	10·68	17·46	14·33
July	17·05	29·92	5·90
August	1·10	7·65	0·53
September	2·90	15·94	8·02
October	6·87	14·97	3·30
November	3·60	4·10	0·16
December	·00	·00	Nil
Total	72·82	112·59	45·94

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN.—OBSERVATIONS at LAGOS HOSPITAL, 1902.

—	Mean Barometer.	Mean Shade Temperature.	Absolute Maximum.	Absolute Minimum.	Percentage of Humidity.	Rain in Inches.
		°	°	°		
January	29·890	80·4	91 on 2nd, 10th, and 16th	68 on 22nd	73·8	Nil
February	29·909	83·0	92 on 15th	70 on 23rd	86·3	1·82
March	29·829	83·2	92 on 25th	73 on 17th	80·7	2·17
April	29·871	84·1	95 on 13th	72 on 17th	73·9	5·09
May	29·920	81·5	92 on 31st	70 on 26th and 29th ...	74·9	4·62
June	29·945	80·4	91 on 7th	70 on 22nd	76·5	14·33
July	30·013	78·4	88 on 13th	70 on 7th, 20th, and 29th	83·0	5·90
August	29·928	78·8	86 on 9th	70 on 9th	77·6	0·53
September	30·008	78·5	85 on various days ...	70 on 17th	79·2	8·02
October	29·985	80·0	88 on 12th	70 on various days ...	80·0	3·30
November	29·966	82·0	90 on 18th, 20th, and 21st	75 on various days ...	77·4	0·16
December	29·944	82·5	91 on 14th and 21st ...	66 on 29th and 30th ...	79·6	Nil
Year ...	29·938	81·1	95 on 13th April	66 on 29th and 30th Dec.	78·6	45·94 Total

Banks.

Under the management of the Colonial Treasurer a Government Savings Bank was established in 1887.

Sums deposited in the Bank during the year 1902 amounted to £12,491, as against £10,469 in 1901—an increase of £2,022—and withdrawals to £9,970, as against £9,923.

The Bank held a total of £19,183 for 1,465 depositors on 31st December, as against £16,663 which stood to the credit of 1,323 depositors in 1901, an increase of £2,520 compared with the previous year. A sum of £14,350 has been invested by the Crown Agents on behalf of the Bank.

The interest at 2½ per cent. per annum computed on sums deposited during the year amounted to £398 10*s.* 11*d.*, from which £14 4*s.* 2*d.* was paid to depositors during the same period, the difference, £384 6*s.* 8*d.*, being added to principal in favour of sundry depositors.

The total amount of interest received from investments to the credit of the Bank amounted to £691 11*s.* 11*d.*, from which must be deducted the sum of £398 10*s.* 11*d.*, the balance £293 1*s.* being in favonr of the Bank.

The number of depositors was increased by 142 during the year.

The subjoined table shows the transactions of the Savings Bank during the last five years. In 1887—the year the Bank started—there were 59 depositors, the amount of deposits during the year being £1,094 6*s.* 5*d.*

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Deposits.	Withdrawals.	Net amount of Deposits.	Amount of Investments.	Interest on Investments.	Interest paid to Depositors.	Profit.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1898	965	8,317 8 4	5,639 11 4	2,677 17 0	2,000	391 5 10	341 1 2½	50 4 7½
1899	1,071	10,487 13 1½	9,842 8 11	645 4 2½	—	472 12 9	365 0 7½	107 12 1½
1900	1,173	9,419 4 6½	9,855 14 9½	Decrease— 436 10 3	—	453 11 8	379 12 2½	73 19 5½
1901	1,323	10,469 17 6½	9,923 17 5	546 0 1½	—	472 13 2	376 17 7	95 15 7
1902	1,465	12,491 0 0½	9,97[illegible] 9 5	2,520 10 7½	3,000	691 11 11	398 10 11	293 1 0

In 1891 a branch of the African Banking Corporation was established in the Colony, now the Bank of British West Africa, Limited, which has an authorised capital of £250,000, subscribed capital £116,800, called-up capital £46,720, reserve capital £70,080, and a reserve of £15,000. The London office is at 17, Leadenhall Street, the branches in West Africa being at Bathurst, Sierra Leone, Axim, Sekondi, Cape Coast and Accra. The head office is at 14, Castle Street, Liverpool.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

In the Lagos district 1,367 persons were brought before the Police Magistrate, of whom 131 were discharged for want of prosecution, 158 discharged after hearing, 1,032 summarily convicted, and 46 committed for trial at the assizes.

The total number of persons committed to prison was 165, of which 117 men and 13 women were committed for larceny, seven men for cattle stealing, four men for assault, four men for wounding, five men for escape, and 15 men committed in default of payment of fines for minor offences.

There were 22 persons arrested for drunkenness, of whom 15 men and four women were convicted, and three men discharged.

Three juveniles were ordered to be birched for larceny.

Before the Chief Justice 46 persons were convicted (two for murder, two for manslaughter, 11 for assault and wounding, 25 for offences against property, and eight for other offences), 11 person were discharged after hearing, and four were discharged for want of evidence.

The following table shows the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals for the last three years.

——	1900.	1901.	1902.
The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrate	1,720	1,764	2,016
The number of summary convictions—			
1. For offences against the person...	174	148	205
2. For cattle stealing and arson ...	58	21	10
3. For offences against property other than cattle stealing and arson	204	152	186
4. For other offences	466	551	834

—	1900.	1901.	1902.
The number of convictions in the Superior Court—			
1. For offences against the person...	9	7	11
2. For cattle stealing and arson ...	14	2	—
3. For offences against property other than cattle stealing and arson	9	18	25
4. For other offences	6	1	12
The number of persons acquitted—			
1. In the Inferior Courts	409	308	301
2. In the Superior Courts	33	29	11

Police.

The police of the Colony is a semi-military force officered by a Commissioner and two Assistants (European), a Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent (native), and 438 non-commissioned officers and men distributed throughout the districts, some 250 men being stationed in Lagos alone. In addition to their ordinary duties the police, in the absence of troops, furnish all special escorts and also guards.

The force was increased by 50 men during 1902.

There is a detective branch consisting of one native Superintendent, four non-commissioned officers, and 10 detectives.

A steam and manual fire engine is maintained by the police, this sub-department comprising a superintendent, one engineer, and 20 firemen.

The discipline and conduct of the men have been satisfactory.

The total expenditure of the force was £14,507 6*s.* 4*d.*, compared with £14,117 9*s.* 6*d.* the previous year.

Prisons.

The daily average of prisoners in the prison of the Colony was 134 during the year 1902.

The number of prisoners admitted during the year 1902 was 316, against 361 in 1901.

The following tables give the numbers of prisoners serving two years and upwards, and those serving under this period.

Two Years and Upwards.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1901	66	Nil	66
1902	57	Nil	57

Under two Years.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1901	85	9	94
1902	85	5	90

The prisoners are employed in book-binding, rope and basket making, and in out-door labour, in filling up swamp land.

The total expenditure of the prison for 1902 was £1,733, as against £1,792 the previous year. The average daily cost of food for prisoners is 5½*d.* per head. The health of prisoners was good. The number of deaths during 1902 was 10, and in the previous year five.

POPULATION.

The census of the island and harbour of Lagos was taken in 1901, the total population of the two places as returned by the Registrar-General being as follows :—

District.	Population.	
Lagos harbour and island	39,354	
As compared with in 1891	32,508	
Increase	6,846	
		39,354
Ebute Metta	—	2,493
Total	—	41,847

A census of the districts was not taken as this would have entailed a large expenditure of money.

The estimates for the various districts were as follows:—

District.	Population.
Western district	60,000
Eastern district	132,000
Central district	30,000
Ikorodu and Shagamu districts	65,000
Province of Ibadan and Oyo	150,000
Province of Ilesha	300,000
	1,347,000
Town and harbour of Lagos and Ebute Metta	41,847
Total	1,388,847

There is an increase shown of 63 per cent. in the European population in Lagos harbour and island, namely, 233 as against 143 in 1891.

The estimate of Europeans at out districts was 75, which gives a total European population of 308 as compared with 150 in 1891.

3,479 persons were returned as being able to read and write, 637 as being able to read, and 5,058 as English-speaking. In 1891 the returns show 3,303 persons able to read and write, 1,064 able to read, English-speaking, 4,901.

The following gives particulars as to colour, religion, acquaintance with the English language and elementary education in Lagos Island and Ebute Metta in 1901, as compared with 1891.

1891.

Locality.	Blacks.	Whites.	Total.	Christians.	Mohammedans.	Pagans.	English Speaking—Males and Females.	Can Read—Males and Females.	Can Read and Write—Males and Females.
Lagos District A ...	10,860	55	10,915	3,364	4,782	2,769	1,926	340	1,371
„ B ...	5,875	39	5,914	2,351	2,321	1,242	1,481	374	945
„ C ...	7,375	2	7,377	699	3 544	3,134	332	156	322
„ D ...	7,998	28	8,026	2,505	3,648	1,873	889	193	630
Ships	257	19	276	77	—	199	273	—	—
Total ...	32,365	143	32,508	8,996	14,295	9.217	4,901	1,064	3,303

1901.

Locality.	Blacks.	Whites.	Total.	Christians.	Mohammedans.	Pagans.	English Speaking—Males and Females.	Can Read—Males and Females.	Can Read and Write—Males and Females.
Lagos District A ...	13,394	97	13,491	3,850	7,085	2,556	1,679	234	1,314
„ B ...	7,101	42	7,143	2,486	3,357	1,300	1,495	180	935
„ C ...	7,345	1	7,346	620	4,371	1,995	168	26	137
„ D ...	10,925	29	10,954	2,817	6,045	2,092	1,137	205	918
Ships	389	31	420	108	3	309	416	—	67
Total ...	39,154	200	39,354	9,881	21,221	8,252	4,895	645	3,371

This return shows a large increase of Mohammedans at the expense of Christians and pagans.

Postal Service.

The total postal revenue for the financial year was £1,990 10*s.* 2*d.*, and the total expenditure of the department was £1,455 13*s.* 9*d.*

Details of postal articles sent and received from abroad from 1898 to 1902 are given in the following statement :—

—	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
Sent from Lagos to United Kingdom.					
Letters and postcards ...	35,019	40,848	43,858	46,855	51,864
Newspapers, bookpackets, &c.	9,003	7,912	8,957	8,860	8,832
Sent from Lagos to other places.					
Letters and postcards ...	27,928	31,143	31,254	38,445	40,272
Newspapers, bookpackets, &c.	9,718	8,742	9,000	7,885	7,572
Received from the United Kingdom.					
Letters and postcards ...	42,711	24,410	47,845	45,302	61,439
Newspapers, bookpackets, &c.	64,099	32,495	76,842	49,808	98,696
Received from other places.					
Letters and postcards ...	27,665	30,733	34,556	22,325	23,037
Newspapers, bookpackets, &c.	6,685	5,144	5,375	6,941	—

The number of inland letters, book packets, &c., dealt with during 1898–1902 is shown as under :—

—	Letters and Postcards.	Bookpackets, &c.
1898	33,154	12,571
1899	47,090	14,839
1900	61,956	19,020
1901	22,565	5,050
1902	41,292	3,792

The transactions of the parcel post with the United Kingdom and West African Colonies in both directions were as follows : —

—	Received from		Sent to	
	United Kingdom.	Other Places.	United Kingdom.	Other Places.
1898	2,022	526	489	944
1899	2,327	497	514	1,298
1900	2,962	520	632	1,367
1901	3,522	864	852	1,968
1902	4,715	765	717	2,483

The transactions in connection with the money order system from 1898 to 1902 were as under :—

—	Total amount of orders issued in Lagos on		
	United Kingdom.	Other Places.	Districts Inland.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1898...	5,834 5 10	2,821 0 7	126 13 1
1899...	5,321 19 3	4,058 6 5	49 7 0
1900...	5,873 15 9	2,630 7 8	14 2 0
1901...	7,506 19 9	1,841 6 3	43 11 0
1902...	7,794 8 3	1,425 6 9	38 5 5

—	Total amount of orders paid in Lagos from		
	United Kingdom.	Other Places.	Districts Inland.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1898...	315 14 6	8,760 6 4	787 2 1
1899...	287 4 2	12,180 4 0	456 0 3
1900...	569 0 3	11,367 8 5	494 0 8
1901...	703 13 0	11,263 13 11	238 4 9
1902...	582 9 9	9,541 4 4	143 15 6

Since the introduction of Imperial penny postage the number of letters posted has materially increased.

Mail Service.

A mail service is provided weekly by Messrs. Elder, Dempster & Co.s' steamers sailing from Liverpool to Lagos, calling at Sierra Leone and principal ports on the Gold Coast. The Woermann Line also runs a fortnightly service from Hamburg, touching at Southampton for mails and passengers. The passage to Lagos averages 19 days. The service performed by both lines is a good one, better in fact, taken altogether, than any the Colony has hitherto had.

Cargo steamers are frequently depatched from Liverpool and Hamburg to Lagos by the above lines.

There is a weekly mail service of Government steam launches from Lagos to Porto Novo, and from Lagos to Atijere.

Telegraphic Communication.

(1.) *Inland.*

The revenue derived from this source during 1902 was £261 as compared with £257 for 1901. In addition to telegrams paid for, a number of Government telegrams were despatched over the line by Northern Nigeria from which no revenue was derived. The principal districts are in telegraphic communication with headquarters. Proposals have been submitted to and approved by the Secretary of State for the establishment of telegraphic communication between Forcados and Lagos. The connecting of these two ports will be a great commercial benefit.

The rate charged on the Government line to any distance is 6*d.* for twelve words.

(2.) *Foreign.*

An annual subsidy of £1,000 is paid to the African Direct Telegraph Company by the Lagos Government. The rate to Great Britain is 6*s.* 5*d.* per word, Government messages being charged half rate.

Public Works.

A large annual expenditure necessarily takes place on streets. This work is greatly handicapped by the absence of good road-making material in the immediate vicinity, Aro (about 60 miles distant) being the nearest point on the railway from which suitable material can be obtained. A large amount of street drainage was carried out in 1902.

In order to supply the inhabitants with water, several additions to the number of wells already sunk were made in various parts of the town.

A new cemetery has been provided on Ikoyi Plains, which it is hoped will meet the necessities of the community for some time.

A sum of £1,874 15*s* 0*d*. was spent on the making of interior roads and the keeping in repair of existing roads. A new road was made from Joffin on the western boundary which should eventually reach Meko.

A dejection jetty was placed on the Marina for the disposal of sewage.

The work in connection with the reclamation of Kokomaiko swamp was continued during the year. It will, when finished, vastly improve the eastern portion of the island and form an asset of great value to the Colony. This work is closely allied with the new iron bridge over Five Cowrie Creek, for the building of which arrangements have been made. The new structure will be in substitution for the old wooden bridge over the creek.

A new dispensary was built in Lagos in a thickly populated part of the island.

The progress of electric lighting has been steady since the original installation of the Davey-Paxman engines and E. E. C. alternators in 1897. In 1901, a third unit of equal capacity to one of the first units, was put down. The work of installing private lights has increased to such an extent that a fourth unit, of double the capacity of any one of the others, is about to be ordered to meet the demand for lighting and power purposes.

During the year a detartarizer has been added to the station to eliminate the heavy silicate deposit in the boilers. Three Korting ejector condensers have also been fixed to the three existing units, together with the necessary pipe-work, tanks, circulating pump, &c. This latter work was carried out under considerable difficulties, as only one European was in charge of the Electric Light Department during its erection, and the service of the electric light had to be uninterrupted. Great credit is due to the department for the few service breakdowns, taking into consideration the type of drivers and mechanics employed to run the machinery, and the impossibility of obtaining immediately any spare part in the event of the occurrence of a fault or break.

Two underground service cables are at present in use, one rubber-insulated, lead-covered, and laid in a conduit, and the other paper-insulated, lead-covered, and double-steel-armoured, and laid direct in the ground.

Considerable trouble was experienced in keeping the branch joints watertight, as many parts of the cable are only a few inches above water-level; but this difficulty has now been overcome.

Thirteen transformer chambers have been erected in varions parts of the town, where the high tension is reduced to 100 volts and distributed to the various houses, &c., by lead-covered twin-paper-insulated cable and lead in culverts (manufactured in Lagos).

As no electric lighting contractors exist in Lagos the Government undertake the work of installation under the superintendence of the Electric Light Department.

Government House, the hospital, and the principal houses, churches and public halls have had electric light installed in them, the number of 16 c.-p. lamps amounting to nearly 1,000 (48 buildings), and installations are in hand for 200 lights more.

The electric light is a great boon to residents in Lagos where strong winds prevail, making kerosine oil lamps not only dangerous, but difficult to keep lighted.

A large number of table fans have been introduced to take the place of punkahs.

Telephones.

An exchange service of 50 subscribers is installed in the most central part of the town, to which most of the European merchants' offices, Government offices, and police and fire stations are connected by overhead wires. So much damage has been done by falling trees and atmospheric disturbances that it has been decided to lay the wires underground. The material for this work has arrived, and the re-organizing of the service will commence as soon as the dry season sets in.

Force.

Military.

An Ordinance was passed in 1902 to convert the Hausa Force into a Battalion of the West African Frontier Force, and under this law the officers and men are available for service in any portion of British West Africa.

The Force consists of a Major Commanding, three Captains, an Adjutant, twelve Subalterns, Pay and Quartermaster, three Native Officers and 520 non-commissioned officers and men, with

headquarters at Lagos; a detachment of 100 men being stationed at Ibadan, and small detachments at Saki, Jebu Ode, and Ilesha.

A contingent comprising the Major Commanding, Major J. G. O. Aplin, C.M.G., Captains L. E. H. Humfrey, J. C. Ralph, A. W. Butterworth, G. Anderson, W. R. H. Iles, B. M. Read, G. A. Sabine, Dr. Graham, two Native Officers, one British non-commissioned officer, and 250 non-commissioned officers and men with two Maxims and 150 carriers left Lagos on November 21st, 1901, for Southern Nigeria to join the Aro Field Force.

The casualties during the operations were :—

Severely wounded, Captains Iles and Sabine.

Killed or died of disease, 4 non-commissioned officers and men.

Wounded, 20 non-commmissioned officers and men.

Invalided back to Lagos, 1 Native Officer and 6 men.

The following officers were mentioned in despatches, Captains L. E. H. Humfrey and G. Anderson, and Native Officer Mama Nakaru, who was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal.

The contingent returned to Lagos on the 12th of April, 1902.

RAILWAYS.

The Lagos Government Railway has been opened for traffic now two years, and covers a distance of 124 miles from Lagos to Ibadan, including a branch line, two miles long, from Aro to the important town of Abeokuta situated about midway.

The railway accounts for the financial year show that a total revenue of £17,897 12*s*. 1*d*. was earned during that year. The gross receipts were shown to cover working expenses.

From the commencement the people of the country have taken kindly to the railway. The total number of passengers carried during the year 1902 was 81,256. Of this number 97 per cent. travelled in the 3rd or lowest class. The 3rd class fare is based upon the low average of ½*d*. per mile, a passenger being carried 124 miles to Ibadan for the sum of 5*s*. only. This rate is considerably below the corresponding fares charged on the French Dahomey Railway adjoining this Colony.

Of the traffic in public merchandise the natural products of the country, which form the staple export, constituted 64 per cent.; 13,143 tons of palm kernel were thus handled, and 650 tons of palm oil. Of the foreign imports carried by the railway

into the interior, the pirncipal items were spirits, corrugated iron, and cotton goods. These articles contributed 13 per cent. only of the tonnage dealt with.

Great difficulty was at first experienced in regard to locomotive power during the earlier months of 1902. Since then, however, six new engines have been erected and the train service brought into better working order.

Towards the close of May, 1902, the steam tramway was formally opened to public traffic. The closure of the Carter bridge, owing to important necessary repairs, prevented access to the railway terminus at Iddo, and detracted from the full value of the tramway service, which had, in consequence, to be confined to Lagos town. The tramcars are, however, being increasingly used in Lagos itself, and ought hereafter to prove a great public convenience.

To increase the facilities for the shipping trade, it is in contemplation to build a new wharf in connection with the railway terminus at Iddo, at a probable cost of £50,000. Borings have been taken for this important improvement, and it is hoped that the work will shortly be put in hand and carried to an early completion. Another improvement which has been sanctioned at an estimated cost of £3,000, and is to be charged to capital account of the railway, is the installation of the electric staff system of train working.

The total number of European officers of all grades employed on the railway during the year was 70. A noteworthy improvement in the general health of the railway staff has been recorded during 1902 and since this department came under the care of the medical staff of the Colony. This must be attributed to the greater attention that has been given to matters of sanitation to which so much importance is to be attached.

The quantitative value of the work done on the railway may be gathered from the figures in the subjoined summary :—

Period, Half Year ending.	Gross Earnings.	No. of Passengers Carried.	Unit Mileage.	Tonnage Hauled.	Ton Mileage.
	£				
June, 1902 ...	20,104	38,359	1,977,098	14,319	1,174,657
December, 1902	23,207	42,896	2,153,720	21,640	1,499,896
Total ...	43,311	81,255	4,130,818	35,959	2,674,553

General Observations.

The year 1902 was a prosperous one for the Colony. The summary of the returns of the trade of Lagos and the hinterland shows a marked improvement in commerce, with a large increase in both imports and exports over those of the previous year—an increase which is likely to be maintained.

The cost of living has continued to advance, and the price of land, labour, and house property has risen enormously.

The opening up of roads by the Alake in the Egba Country (which will afford communication with several towns) will be of great benefit to the Colony, giving increased facilities to farmers to send their products to Aro, and from there to Lagos by the railway.

I have every reason to believe that a considerable quantity of cotton will be shipped to Liverpool next year, as the farmers have taken up this industry with vigour. The weather has been most favourable for palm trees, and the principal articles of export, palm kernels and palm oil, should, therefore, give a good return during the year 1903.

The following extract from the Governor's Message to the Legislative Council accompanying the Estimates for 1903–4, explains the financial condition of the Colony at the end of the Financial year 1902–1903 :—

"Perhaps enough has been said to demonstrate to the Council that during the last two financial years, at a time when there was unprecedented strain on the revenue of the country, the public receipts have shown surprising elasticity; and that the Colony has, so far as ordinary revenue and expenditure are concerned, been living within its means with a very handsome margin to spare. To recapitulate briefly, the difference in favour of the Colony between the revenue and the expenditure of the last two years, exclusive of Railway, amounted to the unprecedented sum of £67,612, a result on which this Council and the whole country may well congratulate themselves. Including railway Open Lines, the loss on which was £3,743, the difference was £63,869."

I am pleased to be able to report that the general health of the Colony was good, and that the death-rate was lower than that of the previous year.

During his leave Sir William MacGregor visited Amsterdam with the object of continuing there the study of malarial fever, chiefly from the prophylactic point of view, and with special reference to the effect of salt water in the canals of that city in

reducing the prevalence of the disease. The Governor proposes to extend and complete his investigation when on leave next year. Full and most interesting reports in connection with those visits have been published in the Government Gazette of the Colony. Egypt was also visited, and during his stay there the Governor endeavoured to obtain as much information as possible about the cultivation of cotton in that country, hoping that the information gained would be of interest in connection with the cultivation of cotton in West Africa.

The Chief Justice, Sir Thomas Crossley Rayner, proceeded on leave of absence on the 5th of February, and severed his connection with the Colony on the 5th of August, on which date he was appointed Attorney-General of British Guiana. Mr. W. Nicoll, a Puisne Judge of the Gold Coast, and formerly Queen's Advocate of this Colony, was appointed to succeed Sir Thomas Rayner, and assumed the duties of his office on the 9th October.

Mr. F. C. Fuller, Resident at Ibadan, was during his leave of absence appointed Assistant Colonial Secretary of Malta.

The life of King Edward the Seventh during His Majesty's most serious illness on the very eve of the day fixed for the Coronation was the object of tender, affectionate, and serious regard by his subjects throughout the Colony and Protectorate, who lost no opportunity of declaring their heartiest sympathy for the King and his gracious Consort in the days of their anxiety. All hearts were aroused at this anxious period; there were heartfelt congratulations for his recovery, and wishes that His Majesty may long be spared to reign over a loyal, great, and united Empire.

The Coronation of His Most Gracious Majesty was celebrated throughout the Colony with the enthusiastic loyalty befitting such an event. Addresses expressive of loyal and patriotic feeling were received from many Chiefs of the Protectorate by the Officer Administering the Goverment, on behalf of His Majesty, a feeling held in common by the people of this country of all ranks and classes.

The following telegram was sent by the Members of the Legislative Council to His Majesty through the Secretary of State for the Colonies :—

"That this Council humbly tenders to His Majesty King Edward the Seventh and to his august Consort its sincere congratulations upon the occasion of their Coronation, and humbly prays that Their Majesties may long be spared to rule over a happy and contented people, and that the Council desires upon this auspicious occasion to renew to His Most Gracious Majesty the humble expression of its devotion to His Throne and Person."

The forces of this Colony were represented by Captain B. Montray Read and 25 non-commissioned officers and men of the Lagos Battalion of the West African Frontier Force who took a prominent part in the ceremonies. Before returning to Lagos, the detachment was reviewed by the Right Honourable Joseph Chamberlain, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, who expressed great satisfaction at the soldierly bearing and good behaviour of the contingent.

C. H. HARLEY MOSELEY,

Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Lagos, 30th June, 1903.

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No. 427.

LAGOS.

REPORT FOR 1903.

(For Report for 1902, *see* No. 400.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
September, 1904.

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No. 427.

LAGOS.

(For Report for 1902 *see* No. 400.)

SIR WM. MACGREGOR to MR. LYTTELTON.

London,

August 19th, 1904.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a Report I have prepared on the Lagos Blue Book for 1903, and I would wish to direct your special attention to a few of the more important questions dealt with in that Report.

2. Tables of revenue and expenditure have been made to embrace a sufficient number of years to enable one to form a clear opinion as to the progressive fiscal capabilities of the Colony; and the figures given will suffice to prove that the financial condition is eminently satisfactory. It appears that the combined surpluses of the last four fiscal years amount to £201,112, a result that could have been obtained only by the practice of economy in a country that was peaceful and prosperous.

3. The tables of malarial cases and of mortality, prepared by Dr. Strachan, C.M.G., and included in this report, are of importance, and should give much encouragement to the continuation of the work of sanitation carried on at Lagos. There can be no reasonable doubt that Lagos can be made a fairly healthy town within a few years from this, if the hygienic measures in use there now are persevered in; and if these are supplemented by the execution of the scheme submitted to you, with the full approval of the consulting engineers, for furnishing the inhabitants with a sufficient supply of good water.

4. It has been customary in the Blue Book Returns to include specie in the totals of imports and exports. The quantities of coin imported in connection with railway construction, and the large sums exported in consequence of the completion of that work, and to meet the varying conditions of trade, were sufficient

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to seriously disturb deductions that might be drawn from a hasty consideration of total imports and exports. A table of specie imports and exports has been given for the last seven years; and where necessary, specie has been excluded from totals in dealing with imports and exports in this report.

5. As it was not clearly understood by many people in Great Britain that the exports of Lagos are largely dependent on the amount of rain that falls there each year, and the cause of the shrinkage in exports since 1902 was not manifest, a table of rainfall and of the palm produce exported is given from 1888 to 1903, which shows unmistakably the correlation between heavy rainfall and large exports.

6. The export of timber is not on a satisfactory basis. It is still too common a practice to cut down immature trees unfit for the market. Regulations against this, common to all the provinces of the territory, are required, with more expensive supervision of the timber-cutters.

7. It should be specifically brought to your notice that by far the most important export from Lagos is the palm kernel, and that some 90 per cent. of this product is exported to Germany, and only about 10 per cent. is shipped to this country. A greater proportion of the palm oil comes to England, but Germany has now three-fourths of the whole export of palm produce, oil and kernels, in her hands.

8. English merchants have a practical monopoly of the valuable trade in cottons; while Germany has a monopoly of the spirit imports. Germany receives 65 per cent. of the total exports of the Colony, and England only 30 per cent.

9. The strict official order and arrangement of a Blue Book Report has not in this case been followed, but attention has been chiefly concentrated on those financial and trade questions which appeared at this particular time to merit more extended notice, while many minor details of administration have been omitted, a course which, it is hoped, may meet with your approval.

I have, &c.,

WM. MACGREGOR.

REPORT ON THE LAGOS BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1903.

I. FINANCIAL.

1. The total revenue received for the financial year, ending 31st March, 1903, was £359,960.

The total expenditure for the same period was £254,331.

This leaves a balance on the year's transactions of £105,629 in favour of the treasury.

These results compare, as under, with the nine preceding years: —

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Balance.
	£	£	£
1893	115,317	101,251	+ 14,066
1894	137,017	124,829	+ 12,188
1895	142,049	144,483	— 2,434
1896	179,745	168,444	+ 11,301
1897	177,953	182,668	— 4,715
1898	206,444	203,802	+ 2,642
1899	192,791	223,289	— 30,498
1900–1	211,467	187,124	+ 24,344
1901–2 { Ordinary	257,124	213,855	+ 43,269
1901–2 { Railway	17,898	21,640	— 3,742
Total, 1901–02 ...	275,022	235,495	+ 39,527
1902–3 { Ordinary	313,999	220,536	+ 93,463
1902–3 { Railway	45,961	33,795	+ 12,166
Total, 1902–03 ...	359,960	254,331	+105,629

In the revenue for 1898, as given above, there is included a parliamentary grant of £10,000, without which there would have been a deficit of £7,358.

The excess of expenditure over revenue, which occurred in three different years, as above, amounted to £37,647, which leaves on the transactions of the ten years an excess of revenue over expenditure of £172,050. But this sum has to be reduced by £16,774, the deficit on the intercalary quarter ending 31st March, 1900, which was provided for as a separate entity in order to make the fiscal year synchronous with that of the United Kingdom.

The actual excess of revenue over expenditure for the ten and a quarter years ending 31st March, 1903, was, therefore, £155,276.

The unaudited figures for the year ending 31st March,1904, are:—

——	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Balance.
	£	£	£
Ordinary	283,623	256,621	+ 27,002
Railway	51,072	46,464	+ 4,608
Total	334,695	303,085	+ 31,610

Revenue.

2. It will be seen from these figures that the general revenue of the Colony for 1902-3, exclusive of railway receipts, exceeded that of the previous year by £56,875, although this latter year surpassed its predecessor by £45,657. The expansion of the revenue on ordinary receipts was therefore during the two last financial years, 1901-2 and 1902-3, £102,532.

The total increase in the ordinary revenue during the five fiscal years, ending 31st March, 1904, was, exclusive of railway receipts, £90,832; inclusive of railway receipts, £141,904.

The increase on ordinary revenue in the ten years ending 31st March, 1903, was £198,692.

Several changes have been made in taxation during the last five years, the principal of which will be noticed further on in this report.

Omitting receipts and expenditure connected with the railway, the revenue has increased during the ten years ending with March, 1903, in the proportion of 1 to 2·81; the expenditure in the ratio of 1 to 2·18.

The several heads of revenue for the year under review compare with those of the previous four years as below:—

Head of Revenue.	1898.	1899.	1900-1.	1901-2.	1902-3.
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	179 792	175,697	193,924	233,049	287,510
Harbour and Light Dues ...	645	706	784	789	1,041
Licenses and Internal Revenue.	6,448	6,744	6,696	7,199	8,740
Fees of Court or Office ...	3,362	3,854	4,731	4,862	10,171
Postal Revenue	1,865	1,518	1,574	1,991	2,356
Rent	425	463	405	448	582
Interest on Investments ...	2,126	2,178	2,211	2,198	2,236
Land Sales	296	402	185	209	222
Miscellaneous	1,485	1,230	957	6,379	1,141
Total	—	—	—	257,124	313,999
Railway Receipts	—	—	—	17,898	45,961
Grand Total	196,444	192,792	211,467	275,022	359,960

3. It may be said that in round numbers nine-tenths of the ordinary revenue is derived from customs dues. No other head of revenue shews any considerable power of expansion. The percentage of customs receipts to the whole of the ordinary revenue has for the last five years remained almost invariable at 91. Customs dues are collected on imports only.

4. Duty on spirits forms the principal source of revenue from customs. During the year ending with March, 1903, spirit dues yielded £182,690, as against £104,819 collected on all other articles liable to duty. In other words, the duty collected on spirits in 1902-3 amounted to 63 per cent. of the total of customs revenue, and to 58 per cent. of the whole of the ordinary revenue of the Colony.

The movements in the spirit trade, as directly affecting the treasury, may be seen with sufficient accuracy for all practical purposes in the following table, which embraces the five years ending with March, 1903:—

Financial Year.	Duty per Gallon.	Revenue from Spirits.	
		Actual.	Per cent. of whole Revenue excluding Railway.
		£	
1898	1*s.* and 2*s.*	135,466	75·34
1899	2*s.*	130,406	74·22
1900–1	2*s.* and 3*s.*	139,152	69·77
1901–2	3*s.*	152,723	65·53
1902–3	3*s.*	182,690	58·18

On the last 11 years the duty on spirits has averaged 69·79 per cent. of the total ordinary revenue.

In 1892 the duty on spirits was raised from 8*d.* to 1*s.* a gallon. In ten years the duty has been trebled; the revenue obtained from that source has risen during the same period in the proportion of 1 to 2·5.

If we accept the revenue from spirits in 1899 as representing the results of a 2*s.* duty, and take the mean revenue from spirits in 1901-2 and 1902-3 as giving the results of a 3*s.* duty, then we find that an increase of duty by 50 per cent. gave an increase of spirit revenue by 28·6 per cent.

It will be noticed that the revenue collected from spirit dues during 1902-3 is greater by £29,967 than that obtained in any previous year. That is doubtless owing to the great prosperity of the time. The fact is the more remarkable, inasmuch as the ratio of spirit revenue to total receipts was unprecedentedly low, which of itself is a matter for congratulation.

5. Next to the duty collected on spirits comes that on cotton goods. The duty on cottons was at the rate of 5 per cent. *ad valorem* up to the 20th March, 1901, when it was raised to 10 per cent., at which latter figure it has remained unchanged. The increased duty on cotton goods was preferred as an alternative to imposing tolls on the bridges that connect Lagos town with the railway.

The duty collected on cottons has been:—

Year.	Duty Collected.	Rate of Duty.
	£	
1898	17,121	5 per cent. *ad valorem*.
1899	15,272	5 " "
1900–1	16,829	5 & 10 " "
1901–2	32,498	10 " "
1902–3	45,881	10 " "

The customs dues received from cotton goods thus amounted in 1902-3 to 14·61 per cent. of the whole of the ordinary revenue.

6. Next in order of importance comes tobacco. The duty received on this import, and the rates at which it has been collected, are shewn below:—

Year.	Revenue.	Rate of Duty.
	£	
1898	10,941	Tobacco and cigarettes 3*d*. per pound; cigars 5*s*. per thousand.
1899	11,860	
1900–1	15,290	Tobacco (unmanufactured) 4*d*. per lb.
1901–2	14,949	Tobacco (manufactured) 3*d*. per lb.
1902–3	13,427	Cigarettes 1*s*. per thousand.
		Cigars 10*s*. per thousand.

The duty on tobacco was raised, as shewn above, on the 26th December, 1899. In 1902-3 it yielded 4·27 per cent. of the ordinary revenue of the Colony.

7. The dues of customs obtained from salt have been as hereunder:—

Year.	Duty Collected.	Rate of Duty.
	£	
1898	1,603	5*s*. per ton.
1899	1,750	5*s*. "
1900–1	5,575	20*s*. "
1901–2	5,507	20*s*. "
1902–3	5,984	20*s*. "

The change in the rate of duty was made on the 26th December, 1899.

It would appear, therefore, on the figures for the five years that an increase of the salt duty by 300 per cent. increased the revenue from that source by 239·4 per cent.

8. The law under which liquor licenses are issued was passed in 1893. The figures hereunder shew a progressive advance in the annual amount obtained from this item of revenue:—

Year.	Collected.	Annual Licence.
	£	
1898	4,502	Wholesale or retail :—
1899	4,718	Town, £50.
1900–1	5,025	Country, £15.
1901–2	5,340	
1902–3	6,386	

Expenditure.

9. The principal item of permanent expenditure to be met every year is that connected with the charges on account of the public debt of the Colony. This has been incurred solely for the building of the railway and the Carter and Denton Bridges, and the whole of the money borrowed has thus been expended on permanent and reproductive works.

The actual annual charges to the Colony on this account have been:—

	£
In 1898	5,965
1899	13,568
1900-1	18,170
1901-2	50,310
1902-3	51,368

The total capital expenditure on railway up to the 31st March, 1903, was £1,210,729. The full borrowing powers of the Colony, as provided by law, amounted to £1,261,000. Of the sum thus expended there had been advanced from the surplus funds of the Colony to railway account £129,705. Advances had been furnished by the Crown Agents for the Colonies, on favourable terms, for £288,524; and a loan was obtained from the Imperial Treasury of £792,500, the full sum obtainable by Lagos, under the Imperial Colonial Loans Act. No Lagos loan had up to that time or has yet been floated in the

public market. The advances made from surplus funds and by the Crown Agents cannot be refunded till such a loan has been raised. There can be no doubt that the terms on which advances were obtained by the Crown Agents for the Colony were more favourable than could have been secured by a loan in the open market; and there was also the additional advantage that only what was immediately required was advanced, so that there were no charges on money borrowed and not actually used.

The annual charges made for the loan from the Imperial Treasury are calculated so as to extinguish the debt in thirty years. They were fixed by the Treasury, 18th January, 1900, and are actually:—

	£	s.	d.
Interest at £3 4s. 0¾d. per cent.	25,386	5	8
Repayment £2 1s. 2¾d. per cent. ...	16,345	2	4
	£41,731	8	0

Bank-rate only is paid on advances obtained by the Crown Agents against the borrowing powers of the Colony.

These figures may therefore be summarised thus:—

Expended on railway to 31st March, 1903:—

	£
By Imperial Treasury Loan	792,500
Surplus Funds of the Colony	129,705
Advances obtained by Crown Agents	288,524
	£1,210,729

The full length of the railway is about 126 miles, all of which is practically completed, and is open for full traffic.

In comparing the earnings and the working expenses of the railway we find a loss to the Colonial Treasury in 1901-2 of £3,742, and a profit in 1902-3 of £12,166, which on the two years gives to the treasury an advantage of £8,426.

As, however, charges were, during those two years, made concurrently to railway loan funds and to ordinary working expenses, the above figures cannot be taken as the basis of an accurate estimate of receipts and disbursements when charges to loan funds finally cease on the completion of the railway.

The principle of low freights has been adopted and maintained on this railway, partly in order to facilitate and encourage the agricultural development and capabilities of the

country, but partly also in consideration of river competition, which from Lagos to Abeokuta (that is, half the length of the railway) is somewhat serious.

It will be observed that the charges for the working of the railway rose from £21,640 in 1901-2 to £33,795 in 1902-3. In the former year the staff was incomplete, and the full service was not in operation for the whole period. It must, however, be remembered that the staff for such a short railway must always remain comparatively costly.

In the face of these facts the railway could not reasonably be expected to pay working expenses and full interest on capital until the agricultural development of the country is further advanced, and the railway is extended. The line, however, pays now in an indirect way more than is represented by the actual figures given above, in comparing earnings and working expenses.

There can be no doubt that the Lagos railway is sufficiently substantial and strongly built to serve as a trunk line for extension to the far interior.

The natives of the country have taken very kindly to the railway, and begin to understand well the advantages they may derive from it.

10. The item of expenditure next in importance is that which is connected with the Lagos Battalion of the West African Frontier Force.

The numerical strength of this body has been considerably reduced. The average strength in 1898 was a personnel of 855, at a total cost of £30,365, or of £35 10*s.* 4*d.* a head. In 1901-2 the average strength was 610 persons; the total cost was £23,308, or £38 8*s.* a head. The actual expenditure for 1902-3 was £21,455. The estimated average cost per head, after the battalion was reorganised by Inspector-General Kemball, was for 1903-4 £49 9*s.* 8*d.*, with a numerical strength of 552 persons, made up of 20 officers and 532 men. The battalion has been of much use outside the territory of Lagos. A fighting force of some 359 men was sent from Lagos to assist the Gold Coast Colony in the last Ashanti campaign, in 1901; a contingent of 256 men was despatched to the aid of Southern Nigeria, in the Aro campaign of 1902; and a strong detachment was sent from Lagos to assist Northern Nigeria in 1903. No risk or danger was incurred by the removal from Lagos of such a large proportion of the men best able to take the field, as their services were not required at home. So far as the domestic requirements of Lagos are concerned, the battalion could be largely reduced. But the reductions already made necessitate an increase in the civil police, because the battalion

formerly performed many police duties from which it is now relieved.

11. The expenditure on police has been—

	£
1898	10,974
1899	14,639
1900-1	14,117
1901-2	14,507
1902-3	15,301

By an addition of 66 men the force was raised in 1902 from 382 to 448 persons, at an increased expenditure of £581 a year. The average cost for each member of the force is £34 3*s*. 1*d*. The police force is composed of natives of the country; the Lagos Battalion consists roughly of four-fifths of Hausas, and one-fifth of natives. The police are provided with arms, and are taught rifle shooting.

12. The direct expenditure on the Medical Department of the Colony has been steadily increasing.

It was in 1898, £10,468; 1899, £11,569, an increase of £1,101; 1900-1, £11,536, a decrease of £33; 1901-2, £14,057, an increase of £2,521; 1902-3, £15,594, an increase of £1,537.

The increase in expenditure was therefore in round numbers about 50 per cent., actually £5,126, in five years.

In 1902, on the reorganisation of the medical services in West Africa and the formation of the West African Medical Staff, a considerable increase was made in the salaries of medical officers in Lagos, which were fixed on the following scale:—

Principal Medical Officer, £800 to £1,000, by £50 a year.

Senior Medical Officer, £600 to £700, by £20 a year.

European Medical Officers, £400 to £500, by £20 a year.

Native Medical Officers, £300 to £350, by £10 a year.

The salary of a European medical officer is now the same as that of a district commissioner. Up to the revision of the scale of medical salaries these officers were not allowed private practice without special permission; they are now entitled to it, unless it is expressly withdrawn. The addition of one medical officer was made to the staff in the year under review.

In connection with the increase of expenditure, it should be pointed out that the medical requirements of the railway have,

since the opening of the line in 1902, been added to the duties of the department. Also much of the time of one officer has been given to the service of the Lagos Ladies' League—a body of workers that are associated together for the purpose of reaching and supplying medicines to the poorest and most inaccessible of the inhabitants of the town of Lagos. Special provision was made for providing the League with medicines. Nearly all the officers of the department have, with Government assistance, attended special courses of instruction on tropical diseases; and two have received such particular training as would fit them to perform the duties of bacteriologist and pathologist respectively, for which some specific addition to their salary has been provided. An increase was also made to the medical expenditure for employing a larger number of vaccinators; also to enable the principal or other medical officer to visit more frequently the much neglected districts of the interior.

Much trouble has been taken in the effort to spread some knowledge of the elements of hygiene in the community. Lectures on sanitation have been delivered at Lagos by Drs. Strachan, Best, and Lumpkin; the courses by the two former being printed. Lectures were also delivered at Badagry by Dr. Read, at Epe by Dr. Sapara, at Ibadan by Dr. Rice, and in the interior by Drs. Strachan, Cole, and Obasa. After attending an elaborate course of lectures on sanitation by the Principal Medical Officer, the teachers of the primary schools subsidised by the Government that had been able to obtain by examination First or Second Class Certificates, taught hygiene in their schools, and for those children that successfully underwent an examination in the elements of hygiene, there was paid a Government grant on the same basis as for reading or writing. Thirteen teachers received First, and fifteen received Second Class, Certificates. The scholars presented for examination for this grant-in-aid numbered 388. Of these 228 were successful. The sum of £20 was voted by the Legislature for special prizes to the school children that proved themselves most proficient in the subject of sanitation. At the School Exhibition, held in December, 1902, 44 school children from seven primary and two secondary schools took part in the competition, and the judges reported that "the majority of them showed sound knowledge of the elementary laws of health."

Nearly all European and many native officers take prophylactic doses of quinine. Prisoners, for example, take 10 grains weekly, in one dose. But in addition to this, one prisoner is employed to catch all the mosquitoes met with in the prison. In the seven months from June to December (inclusive), 1903, this prisoner caught 1,471 anopheles, and 1,385 of the culex species. No general medical report has been received for 1903, but the Senior Medical Officer reports that "the health of the prisoners was excellent."

The communicable nature of malarial fever, and the fact that it is a preventable disease, has led to the use of a printed form that is now filled up by the Medical Officer in the case of an attack of fever in the person of any officer, which shows what necessary precautions have been taken, or been neglected, in each case. The attached tables of sickness and mortality, prepared by Dr. Strachan, Principal Medical Officer, show that a steady improvement has been taking place in health at Lagos.

13. As the tendency of medical work at Lagos, as elsewhere, has during the last few years been at least as much preventive as curative, it follows naturally that the expenditure connected with public works should next be considered, for it is not very clear in many cases whether a given expenditure should be charged to medical, sanitary, or public works votes.

It was estimated that provision was made in 1901-2 for the expenditure, altogether, of a sum upwards of £30,000 on services connected with sanitation. About £28,000 was actually disbursed on similar services in 1902-3, not reckoning therein anything against the salaries of the permanent officers of the Department of Works.

In 1902-3 a sum of £1,339 was expended on Lagos tanks and wells. Practically all tanks at Government quarters have now been made proof against the entry or exit of mosquitoes. Nearly every European officer is now provided with a mosquito-proof room, protected by wire netting, on which the sum of £360 was expended during the year.

14. In reclaiming swamps at Lagos town £4,212 was expended in 1901-2, as against £3,486 in 1902-3, and about double the last sum in 1903-4. But this does not include the value of the labour of a body of from 40 to 60 of the most robust prisoners who are daily employed at this work, to the great advantage of the moral and physical well-being of the prisoners, as well as to the profit of the public. This work of reclamation has now proceeded sufficiently far to demonstrate its great utility to the most unobservant, and during the whole of 1903 it was pushed forward rapidly, principally by giving small contracts to local native chiefs. A large proportion of the material for reclamation was obtained by cutting a canal through Lagos Island, 25 feet wide, which formed the trunk of smaller canals to drain the whole swamp area lying between the town and Ikoyi cemetery. This work, by draining the swamps and refreshing them every tide, tends to prepare the area for reclamation in the future, and also inhibits the breeding of mosquitoes in the swamps. No less than £5,000 was expended on swamp reclamation in the first three-quarters of the year, and it was calculated that the whole expenditure for the fiscal year on this service would be about £6,500. Some 25 acres of the worst swamp of Lagos, lying to windward of the town, has been filled in during the last five years. To say nothing of the incalculable sanitary advantages of this great work, the value

of the land reclaimed would be for the treasury a good financial investment, for the land is worth more than the reclamation has cost. It is only necessary to continue this work at the same rate as in 1903 for some half dozen years in order to complete the reclamation of the last swamp in Lagos west of the canal.

15. In the year under consideration £1,420 was expended in extending the sea wall and marina. This was also carried on with still greater and better results in 1903-4. This work has been so thoroughly well appreciated that although the marina esplanade must have encroached on scores or hundreds of native owners and occupants, they have put no obstacle in the way of its extension. In less than half a dozen years the wall and esplanade will no doubt embrace the whole island west of the canal.

One of the most useful works of the year was the new iron bridge over the Five-Cowry Creek, which allows of the road being straightened, and provides a permanent way from the town of Lagos to the sea. The cost was altogether under £3,000.

A very useful undertaking was the building of a telegraph line from Lagos town to the boundary with Southern Nigeria, to meet a similar line built by that Protectorate. This wire now connects Lagos with the port of Forcados, and should prove a great boon to merchants, shipowners, and travellers.

Exhaustive experiments were carried out during the year to test the feasibility of providing a sufficient supply of fresh water for the town of Lagos from the sandy plains near it. The experiments made and the reports prepared, completely satisfied the consulting engineers, and the scheme has been pronounced a practicable one.

16. During the five last fiscal years ending March, 1904, the total expenditure has risen from £223,289 to £303,085, an increase of £79,796. Deducting the railway expenditure on open line for the year ending 31st March, 1904, the increase on ordinary expenditure during the five years was only £33,332, or 14·9 per cent., as against an increase in revenue of £90,832, or 47·1 per cent.

The heavy expenditure entered on in 1898 and 1899, which resulted in practically exhausting the small reserve fund of the Colony, rendered rigid economy necessary in subsequent years, in order that there should be something to fall back on to meet one or two bad years, which in a place like Lagos might occur at any time from drought, locust incursions, invasion by plague, &c.

This policy of retrenchment was facilitated by the fact that many public works were delayed in their execution at the town of Lagos until it became apparent that it would be preferable to retain the seat of Government there instead of removing it to any other site.

17. A comparison of the annual expenditure, similar to that set out in paragraph 2 for revenue, gives for the five years ending 31st March, 1903, the following results:—

Class of Expenditure.	1898.	1899.	1900–01.	1901–02.	1902–03.
Public Works—	£	£	£	£	£
Extraordinary	41,521	28,711	16,928	14,631	15,464
Department	9,672	21,023	11,212	12,340	10,774
Recurrent	9,000	11,159	9,073	9,332	8,583
Total Works ...	60,193	60,893	37,213	36,303	34,821
Medical	10,468	11,569	11,535	14,057	15,594
Lagos Battalion W.A.F.F....	24,074	30,465	24,978	23,308	21,455
Police	10,973	15,671	14,117	14,507	15,301
Judicial	6,849	7,431	7,110	7,606	8,316
Public Debt Charges ...	5,965	13,568	18,170	50,310	51,368
Other expenditure	85,280	83,692	74,001	67,764	73,681
Total excluding railway ...	—	—	—	213,855	220,536
Railway—open line ...	—	—	—	21,640	33,795
Grand Total ...	203,802	223,289	187,124	235,495	254,331

The total annual expenditure for the five years preceding the above, has already been given in paragraph 1.

18. Early in 1898, when the assets of the Colony exceeded the liabilities by some £60,000, it was decided that the cost of certain public works should be met out of surplus balances. This resulted, as shewn above, in an excess of expenditure over revenue of £30,498 in 1899. To complete certain undertakings that could not be interrupted or abandoned without much loss, there was a further drain of £16,774 upon surplus funds in the intercalary quarter ending 31st March, 1900. The total expenditure of surplus funds up to the date last mentioned was, therefore, £47,272, at which time the excess of assets over liabilities had fallen to £15,569. Through the rigid economy that succeeded this policy, the surplus funds of the Colony have since then steadily increased, thus:—

	£
Excess of assets, January, 1898	60,000
31st March, 1900	15,569
„ „ 1901	39,911
„ „ 1902	79,438
„ „ 1903	185,066

These figures demonstrate that at the present time the finances of the Colony are in a very sound and highly satisfactory condition.

II. TRADE.

Revenue compared with Exports.

19. As the value and volume of the exports may be held to furnish some measure of the power of the community to bear the public burden of taxation, a comparison is given below of the revenue collected, of the total exports, and of the percentage proportion of the value of exports to revenue, and to actual expenditure:—

Year.	Revenue.	Exports.	Percentage of Exports Value.	
			Paid as Revenue.	Actually Expended.
	£	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
1893	115,317	836,295	13·8	12·1
1894	137,017	821,681	16·6	15·2
1895	142,049	985,595	14·4	14·6
1896	179,745	975,263	18·4	17·2
1897	177,953	810,974	21·8	22·5
1898	206,444	882,329	23·4	23·1
1899	192,791	915,934	21·0	24·3
1900–1	211,467	831,259	25·4	22·5
1901–2 ...	*a* 257,124	1,033,573	24·8	20·6
	b 275,022	—	26·6	22·7
1902–3 ...	*a* 313,999	1,341,599	23·4	16·4
	b 359,960	—	26·8	18·9

These figures shew that expenditure, as compared with exports, has since 1899 decreased in a remarkable manner, but that the community has been more heavily taxed since 1897 than formerly.

The actual purchasing and contributory power of the inhabitants was, however, largely increased in a manner not shewn by these export figures, through the expenditure of large sums paid away as wages in railway construction, funds derived from borrowed capital.

a. Excluding railway. *b*. Including railway.

Ex-

20. In the following table, which gives a review of the prin-
ending with December, 1903, the quantity and value of each
purposes of comparison:—

RETURN of EXPORTS, QUANTITY and VALUE,

Article.	1894.		1895.		1896.		1897.		1898.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Cocoa	Lbs. 39,177	£ 929	Lbs. 48,187	£ 832	Lbs. 27,968	£ 442	Lbs. 101,156	£ 1 528	Lbs. 76,965	£ 1 579
Coffee	996	38	168	5	5,236	109	16,112	411	33,835	329
Ivory	9,601	2,086	8,167	2,307	4,561	735	3,706	825	4,359	653
Mahogany ..	Logs —	—	Logs 3	24	Logs 22	275	Logs 1,722	6,291	Logs 3,406	12,945
Palm Kernels	Tons 53,534	440,465	Tons 46,501	320,434	Tons 47,649	343,206	Tons 41,299	306,834	Tons 42,775	362,539
Palm Oil ..	Galls. 3,393,533	187,928	Galls. 3,826,332	205,553	Galls. 3,154,333	159,151	Galls. 1,858 968	97.591	Galls. 1,889,939	97,337
Rubber ..	Lbs. 5,867	324	Lbs. 5,269,503	269,893	Lbs. 3,484,363	347,721	Lbs. 4,458,327	283,185	Lbs. 3,778,266	285,410
Other Articles	—	190,310	—	186,547	—	123,624	—	114,310	—	121,537
TOTAL ..	—	821,682	—	985,595	—	975 263	—	810 975	—	882,329

PORTS.

cipal articles of export from the Colony for the ten years
class of article will be found specified and arranged for the

for the TEN YEARS ending 30TH DECEMBER, 1903.

1899.		1900.		1901.		1902.		1903.		Article.
Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity	Value.	
Lbs. 157,708	£ 3,411	Lbs. 256,234	£ 5,913	Lbs. 229,925	£ 5,042	Lbs. 385,510	£ 7,530	Lbs. 341,461	£ 6,705	Cocoa.
8,068	139	43,502	551	27,798	560	67,153	658	26,550	157	Coffee.
4,509	870	3,779	679	3,916	827	3,284	612	3,301	771	Ivory.
Logs 7,680	34,738	Logs 13,250	58,374	Logs 4,540	12,216	Logs 12,649	33,292	Logs 15,785	56,167	Mahogany.
Tons 49,501	412,817	Tons 48,514	403,614	Tons 57,216	510,968	Tons 75,416	821,404	Tons 63 569	567,612	Palm Kernels.
Galls. 3,292,881	168,457	Galls. 2,977,926	190,165	Galls. 2,302,055	207,468	Galls. 5,240,137	332,487	Galls. 3,174,060	218,247	Palm Oil.
Lbs. 1 993,525	160,315	Lbs. 596,332	48,238	Lbs. 194,277	14,749	Lbs. 151,440	9,272	Lbs. 131,311	15,583	Rubber.
—	135,186	—	177,575	—	157,452	—	132,611	—	281,081	Other Articles.
—	885,112	—	885,112	—	909,232	—	1,337,865	—	1,146,323	TOTAL.

In the above table specie is included with "Other Articles," and this might, without care, give rise to erroneous impressions as to the real value of the export trade of the Colony in recent years. For certain statistical purposes the same correction may be required for imports, as specie has been included in the annual totals of imports. Imports and exports of specie, and the balance for (+), or against (−), the Colony are therefore given here:—

The imports and exports of specie have been:—

Year.	Specie.		Balance.
	Imports.	Exports.	
	£	£	£
1897	69,505	69,796	— 291
1898	148,820	61,218	+ 87,602
1899	160,325	81,576	+ 78,748
1900	75,500	131,814	— 56,314
1901	12,446	111,200	— 98,754
1902	35,522	78,182	— 42,660
1903	667	221,374	— 220,707

From these figures it will be seen that there was, especially in 1903, considerable contraction in the circulating medium required in the country. This principally affected silver. In 1902, £34,885 was imported in silver coinage against £67,652 exported, so that there was in the country £32,767 less silver at the end of the year than there was at the beginning. In 1903 only £297 in silver coin was imported into the colony. The silver coinage in the country was therefore reduced by £221,077 in 1903, and by £253,844 in the course of the two last years. The reasons for this were chiefly two: the practical completion of railway construction, and the contraction in native produce owing to drought.

Of the silver exported in 1903, £107,300 was sent to the Gold Coast, where railway construction was proceeding. Some £90,000 of silver coin was returned to the United Kingdom. The rest of the silver exported went to other West Coast ports.

21. The very remarkable shrinkage in the exports of 1903 as compared with those of 1902, as regards cocoa, coffee, palm kernels, and palm oil, is the result of highly unfavourable meteorological conditions, which well deserve special consideration. It is purely a question of rainfall.

As regards palm produce, the following pertinent paragraph may be quoted from the Report of a Commission to the Governor of Lagos in 1898:—

"The yield of fruit from the palm oil tree (Elaeis Guineensis) varies according to the rainfall. With a sufficiency of moisture

the tree flowers every five or six weeks, and bears eight or nine mature bunches of fruit in the year, but if the rain supply is scanty, the tree flowers only every ninth or tenth week, and the annual yield is reduced to about five bunches. In normal times the Elaeis bears eight heads (so-called nuts) in the year, but it follows a similar habit to the cocoa-nut, the heads being formed spirally and the axils of the leaves at regular intervals, which are long or short, according as the season is favourable. The mischief arising from insufficient rainfall does not finish with the number of heads, for the oil is extracted from the fibre of the thin outside layers of the fruit, which are either red, ripe, succulent and rich with oil, or starved, yellow, and destitute wholly or partially of oil, according to the amount of moisture afforded to the tree during the time the fruit has been maturing."

The following table has been prepared to shew the yearly rainfall, in inches; the yearly export of palm oil, in gallons; and the export of palm kernels, in tons:—

Year.	Rainfall.	Palm Oil.	Palm Kernels.
	Inches.	Gallons.	Tons.
1887	70·80	—	—
1888	49·87	2,446,705	42,525
1889	61·61	3,349,011	32,715
1890	90 88	3,200,824	38,829
1891	64·26	4,204,835	42,342
1892	69·68	2,458,260	32,180
1893	82·55	4,073,055	51,456
1894	70·10	3,393,533	53,534
1895	80·62	3,826,392	46,501
1896	74·23	3,154,333	47,649
1897	51·10	1,858,968	41,299
1898	80·20	1,889,939	42,775
1899	83·46	3,292,881	49,501
1900	72·82	2,977,926	48,514
1901	112·59	3,304,055	57,176
1902	47·82	5,240,137	75,416
1903	70·08	3,174,060	63,568

The correlation between rainfall and the quantity of palm produce exported from the Colony is shewn in an unmistakeable manner by the above figures. They are given here in detail, because the falling off in the exports of 1903 was not understood by British merchants.

It will be noticed that the effect of an unusually great or abnormally small rainfall is sometimes felt most in the exports of the following year. This arises from the fact that the rainfall is divided into the former and the latter rains. Thus, in 1901 there was the unprecedented fall of latter rain of 31 inches in September and October, the effects of which are seen in the record export of 1902.

An examination of the above figures will shew that the export of palm oil is even more sensitive to rainfall than the export of palm kernels.

The greatest rainfall, that of 1901, preceded the almost phenomenally large export of vegetable produce in 1902. The short rainfall of 1902 enabled an intelligent observer to predict with certainty a great falling off in produce in 1903.

But the rainfall of 1903 was remarkable in the fact, which, however, is not unprecedented, that though nearly up to the average at Lagos town, on the coast, the rains failed inland; thus, at Ibadan, for example, it was only 38·49 inches. At Oloke-Meji, the Government Botanical Station, the rainfall was about 110 inches in 1901; 40·3 inches in 1902; and 35 inches in 1903.

Further inland matters were still worse, and the evil, as might be expected, increased the greater the distance from the coastal forest fringe. Thus at Meko, for instance, only 16 inches of rain fell during the ordinary wet season, from 1st May to the 5th October.

It was only owing to the complete peacefulness of the country, and to the extension of roads in the interior, which allowed more produce to be brought from the distant provinces, that the falling off in exports was not greater.

22. *Cocoa.*—The export of cocoa, though still but very small, is hopeful and slowly increasing. There is no doubt that both soil and climate are well adapted to the successful cultivation of this product. In 1891 the exports were 15,254 lbs., valued at £332, as against 341,461 lbs., valued at £6,705, in 1903. Its cultivation is entirely in the hands of native farmers. Plants are grown and sold to them at the Government Gardens at merely nominal rates. This cultivation could be extended almost indefinitely. Much, however, still remains to be done to put both cultivation and preparation on a satisfactory footing.

Cocoa was exported to the following destinations:—

	1902.				1903.			
	Quantity.	Value.			Quantity.	Value.		
	Lbs.	£	*s.*	*d.*	Lbs.	£	*s.*	*d.*
To Belgium ...	900	18	15	0	—	—		
„ Germany ...	181,707	3,560	1	0	156,832	2,978	15	0
„ Great Britain...	202,933	3,951	6	4	184,629	3,725	17	6
Totals ...	385,540	7,530	2	4	341,461	6,704	12	6

23. *Coffee.*—In 1891 the export of coffee from Lagos was 449 lbs., valued at £5 1*s.* 6*d.* It does not appear to have been cultivated for export before 1896. It is a product that could very conveniently be grown by the small farmer, but, of course, the article sent to the market by him would not with the present methods of cultivating and preparing be of first-class quality. The great difficulty connected with this industry is that coffee grown under such circumstances cannot compete in the general coffee market of the world. It will not pay unless the price obtainable improves, of which there is small prospect. There is, therefore, but little likelihood that coffee will be produced in the near future on any considerable scale in Lagos. It reached its high water mark as an export in 1902.

It has been exported as below:—

	1902.		1903.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs	£ *s.* *d.*	Lbs.	£ *s.* *d.*
To Belgium ...	8,064	67 6 2	—	—
„ Germany ...	4,370	50 17 3	1,132	18 9 9
„ Great Britain ..	54,678	536 18 2	25,239	136 9 3
„ Porto Novo ...	14	2 10 0	179	1 16 10
Totals ...	67,126	657 11 7	26,550	156 15 10

It yielded the unsatisfactory prices of 2·37*d.* a lb. for 1902, and of 1·37*d.* a lb. for 1903, rates that will practically extinguish coffee cultivation in Lagos territory, although there is no doubt that the flavour of the coffee grown there is good. Both the Arabian and the Liberian varieties are cultivated, and they appear to be free of coffee-leaf disease.

24. *Ivory.*—No ivory, or very little, is obtained from the forests of the Lagos territory, and only a very small quantity reaches the port from elsewhere in the course of trade. In 1891 the export of this article was 12,473 lbs., valued at £9,665, as against 3,301 lbs., valued at £771, in 1903. It were hopeless to expect any revival of this trade. There is a strong probability that in a generation or two the elephant, as a resident, will be totally extinct in the Yoruba country.

25. *Mahogany.*—The timber industry may be said to have had its inception in 1897, when 275 logs, valued at £1,722, were exported. This industry, which has now become an important one, is subject to very considerable fluctuations, as may

be seen from the following figures, which represent the exports of timber for the last five years:—

Year.	Number of Logs.	Total Value.	Average Value of a Log
		£	£ s. d.
1899	7,680	34,738	4 10 5
1900	13,250	58,374	4 8 1
1901	4,540	12,216	2 13 10
1902	12,049	33,292	2 15 3
1903	15,785	56,167	3 11 2

The market value of this timber, as shewn above, varied largely, and there can be no doubt that the high prices obtained in 1899 and 1900 stimulated this trade to such a degree that a great many immature trees were brought into the market, and hundreds or thousands of logs that were found to be unsaleable were left to decay and rot in the forests and rivers of the territory.

The destination of the timber exported during the two last years has been as below:—

	1902.		1903.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Logs.	£	Logs.	£
To Germany ...	1,261	3,939	1,328	3,800
„ Great Britain...	10,652	28,846	14,170	51,850
„ New York ...	136	507	287	517
Totals ...	12,049	33,292	15,785	56,167

Many immature trees are still being cut down and wasted, to no present profit, but to the great prejudice of the future. All the forests are native property, and practically all are at present beyond the direct jurisdiction of the Colonial Government. Efforts that were made to regulate the industry so as to protect the forests from the waste and mismanagement that still go on, were to a large extent frustrated, and the forest law that was passed by the Legislature is, in the form in which it had to be promulgated, quite inadequate to preserve the forests. The only really valuable remedial measure that has been applied, is the setting apart of considerable forest reserves, which have been put by the native owners into the charge of the Colonial Government for a period of fifty years. This will at least preserve a sufficient number of hardwood trees to supply seed for future planting.

Unless the forests are brought under the control of the Government in a way that is not the case at present, it would

be futile to look upon the timber industry as a permanent one of important dimensions.

It is but too manifest that the forest area is being steadily reduced by the inroads of the farmer. This is more particularly noticeable in the central districts. The forest soil is richer and more fertile than land that has been recently cultivated, and there is a thus a strong temptation to constantly clear and plant new fields at the expense of the forest. At the same time the natives have a great love for trees, and one of their very best instincts is the planting and preserving of numerous beautiful shade trees in their towns. But they have not yet learned generally the importance and the great value of the forests in retaining moisture and providing permanent articles of export, if prudently managed. In fact, the idea of forest management is new to them, and much time and patience is required to bring this home to the native mind. In many parts of the country only the hardwood tree has been left standing to indicate to the observant traveller that at no very remote date a much greater area than at present was covered by forest, all of which has been cleared away and destroyed, except the great and beautiful "Iroko" tree, which has been spared through the fact that some wise and thoughtful priest dedicated that tree to a sylvan deity, whose abode it is, and whose living temple has thus escaped the hand of the destroyer until now, when it is being cut down in the interest of trade. What is most required at present is a stringent general law to prevent the cutting down of immature hardwood trees.

26. *Palm Kernels.*—This export, as may be seen from the table above, is by far the most important of all the exports from the port of Lagos. Deducting from the total exports of each year the sum entered outwards at the customs as specie, palm kernels have represented the following proportions of the total annual exports from the Colony:—

Year.	Proportion of Total Exports.
	Per cent.
1899	51·3
1900	53·5
1901	64·2
1902	65·2
1903	61·3

The average for the five years was 59·1 per cent.

In 1891 the quantity exported was 42,342 tons, valued at £341,349. The lowest since that date was in 1892, with 32,181 tons, valued at £260,109. The highest ever reached was in 1902, when no less than 75,416 tons, valued at £821,404, were sent away.

The valuation a ton, as entered outwards, has been, as under:—

Year.	Value.
	£ s. d.
1891	8 1 3
1895	6 17 9
1899	8 6 9
1900	8 6 4
1901	8 18 7
1902	10 17 9
1903	8 18 7

From this it will be seen that 1902 was a year of record export, both in quantity and in price. It followed also a record rainfall, 112·59 inches, in 1901.

27. *Palm Oil.*—Next to palm kernels comes palm oil in value as an export. Both are obtained from the same tree, and they should therefore be considered together in order to have a correct estimate of the extraordinary importance and value of the palm tree to the Yoruba people. The total annual valuation put on the exports of these two products, kernels and oil, has been:—

Year.	Value of Palm Produce.
	£
1894	628,393
1895	525,987
1896	502,357
1897	404,425
1898	459,876

Year.	Value of Palm Produce.	Percentage of Exports less Specie.
	£	Per cent.
1899	581,274	72·3
1900	593,779	78·8
1901	718,436	90
1902	1,153,891	91·2
1903	785,859	84·9

In 1891 the total combined value was £594,307, which fell in 1892 to £387,852. The opening up of the country by new roads, increased pacific intercourse, and the better prices obtained during the three last years, account for the advance in value of these two staple exports. The average quantity exported during the last three years should be easily maintained, and ought to advance, especially in view of the total abolition of tolls on native produce and the improved roads now available. Prior to 1903 toll would have been collected on a load

of kernels, say from the Ekiti country, at each town the bearer passed through. By the time he reached Ibadan, he would have but little left for his trouble. The road is now absolutely free to native produce, over the whole territory, and this great gain to commerce should be carefully maintained in future.

With time the number of palm trees will increase considerably in the palm producing zone, which lies south of the regions where the Shea Butter tree grows, the dividing line being practically between Oyo and Ogbomosho. The natives do not make it a practice to clear land for the purpose of planting palm trees; but they very frequently plant the palm in the land cleared and cultivated for the purpose of growing food. Sporadic patches of old neglected palms now receive much greater attention than was formerly the case. The palm is indigenous, and grows within its own zone wherever it has a chance of doing so. It would be desirable to encourage in every way practicable the extension of the palm forests; to prepare machinery to remove the husk and extract the oil from it; and to crack the nut and separate the kernels, without encouraging the preparation of oil from the latter, which could more profitably be exported to be manufactured in Europe. The proportions in which the export trade in palm produce is now divided between British and foreign shippers deserves here the most earnest consideration.

The shipment of palm kernels and of palm oil have been to the different countries as given hereunder:—

	1902.				
	Palm Kernels.		Palm Oil.		Total.
	£	Tons.	Galls.	£	£
To Germany ...	667,168	61,865	2,608,538	154,025	821,193
„ Great Britain ...	136,924	12,296	2,628,729	178,260	315,184
„ Holland	17,312	1,255	—	—	17,312
„ Bahia	—	—	2,870	201	201
Totals ...	821,404	75,416	5,240,137	332,486	1,153,890

	1903.				
	Palm Kernels.		Palm Oil.		Total.
	£	Tons.	Galls.	£	£
To Germany ...	509,536	56,894	1,275,104	80,694	590,230
„ Great Britain ...	58,076	6,674	1,898,947	137,551	195,627
„ Bahia	—	—	9	2	2
Totals ...	567,612	63,568	1,174,060	218,247	785,859

It is clear from these figures that the Lagos trade in palm produce is practically confined to Germany and Great Britain. Their respective comparative shares in this is shewn to have been: —

—	1902.		1903.	
	Kernel Export.	Oil Export.	Kernel Export.	Oil Export.
	Per cent	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
To Germany ...	81·2	46·3	89·7	36·9
„ Great Britain...	16·6	53·6	10·2	63·0

The percentage of the total export trade in palm produce has thus been as follows, according to nationality: —

—	1902.	1903.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Germany's share	71·2	75·1
Great Britain's share	27·3	24·9

In 1894 Germany's share in the kernel export was 75 per cent., and that of Great Britain 22·2 per cent.

Germany then received 15·4 per cent. of the palm oil, and Great Britain 84·1 per cent.

These figures seem to prove that the Lagos trade in palm produce, the staple export of the country, is already practically to the extent of three-fourths of the trade in the hands of Germany. It would also further appear that the one-fourth now left to British shippers is a diminishing quantity. Surely, we have here a good field for the manufacturing enterprise of those British merchants who are directly interested in the trade of West Africa. In this connection it should be pointed out that the German share in the export of palm produce is greatest as regards kernels, which, more truly than the oil, represents the raw and unmanufactured article, which also gives to the importer bye-products, and at the same time provides a considerable amount of employment for workmen.

28. *Rubber.*—As the value of the rubber exported in 1891 was only £3 18*s.*, in 1892 was nothing, and was only £2 10*s.* in 1893, it may be said that the rubber industry was started in Lagos in 1894, when it was exported to the value of £324. It reached its highest figure in 1896, with a value of £347,721. In 1899 the collecting of rubber was somewhat abruptly checked by the death of some 75 per cent. of all the rubber trees in the country. At the same time regulations were put

in force by the different native authorities to prohibit tapping the trees for a period of four years, to give some chance of recovery to the few weakly trees that survived, and to allow young ones to grow up. Of the rubber exported since 1900 a part has come from beyond the Lagos territory, but probably the greater portion of it is rubber that has been collected in violation of the restrictions imposed. In 1903 it was found by expert examination of the forests that a considerable quantity of rubber could in the latter half of the year have been collected in some of the provinces; but, after mature deliberation, the authorities concerned decided to leave the trees untapped for one year more, having been assured that they would thereby obtain a better harvest.

It was also arranged that collectors should in future be licensed, taught, and registered, so that a more scientifically correct method of collection should take the place of the destructive, ignorant, and reckless procedure practised formerly.

Some efforts have been made to cultivate introduced varieties of rubber-bearing trees and plants, but it appears that the indigenous rubber has so far done as well as, if not better than, any introduced variety.

The "Ire" rubber tree, however, seems to be of slow growth. From 1894 onwards for several years, exports were abnormally, because only temporarily, inflated by rubber. Had care and skill been exercised in collecting this product, the immediate gain would have been less, but a valuable and permanent export could have been secured. The large returns from rubber obtained from 1896 to 1899 were misleading to all concerned, as may be seen by the following comparison of the exports inclusive and exclusive of rubber:—

—	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
Total exports	821,682	985,595	975,263	810,974	882,239
Rubber exports	324	269,893	347,721	283,184	285,409
Exports less rubber ...	821,358	715,702	627,542	527,790	596,830

—	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
Total exports	915,934	885,112	909,232	1,357,865	1,146,323
Rubber exports ...	160,315	48,238	14,749	9,272	15,583
Exports less rubber ...	755,619	836,874	894,483	1,348,593	1,130,740

Should the restrictions against the collecting of rubber be removed in 1904, there would a considerable export. And if the regulations that have been prepared with care and study

of the subject are enforced, the industry should remain permanently one of considerable and of growing importance. Experiments in systematically re-furnishing forest land with the indigenous rubber tree, which yields a product that commands a good price, are being carried on by the Government.

29. Among the minor products, comprised in the table of Exports under the heading of "Other Articles" in paragraph 20, may be mentioned specially:—

(*a*) Calabashes, which to the value of £376 in 1902, and of £545 in 1903, were shipped outwards to other ports on the West Coast.

(*b*) Cattle were shipped outwards to the value of £299 in 1902, and of £736 in 1903; the shipment of these to the extent of £629 in 1903 was to the Gold Coast Colony.

(*c*) Copra was exported to the value of £688 in 1902, and of £410 in 1903.

(*d*) Corn, entered outwards at £161, was sent away in 1902, and at £2,215 in 1903. There is no doubt a promising market for this article. It forms with yams the staple food of the country and grows well, while the native farmers understand its cultivation.

(*e*) Raw cotton, weighing about 5·5 tons and valued at £150, was exported in 1902. In 1903 the exports were:—ginned cotton, 123·5 tons, worth £7,055, and unginned cotton, 5·8 tons, worth £55.

"Country Cloths" made of cotton grown, spun, and woven in the country, were shipped outwards in 1903 to 17 ports on the West Coast, to the value of £2,396. As the cultivation of cotton is nothing new to the native farmer, as both chiefs and people are enthusiastic in cotton culture, and as soil and climate are fairly suitable over a great area, there is good reason to expect that the cotton export will become a very important one in the near future.

(*f*) Kola nuts, valued at £1,214, were shipped outwards in 1903, but against this they were imported to the large sum of £38,862. Steps have been taken to largely increase the local production of this article, especially of the variety most suitable to trade with the interior.

(*g*) Shea butter, worth £1,183, was exported in 1902; and to the value of £2,701 in 1903. This article has been in much repute locally as a lubricant for railway purposes, where it is used instead of Russian tallow. It is employed largely in the interior as a luminant, a use for which it is well suited.

30. On what precedes, an interesting general question can now be considered, namely:—What part of the whole export trade of the Colony is at present enjoyed by Germany and by Great Britain respectively? The answer to this may be stated

briefly in the figures that follow, which show both the absolute and percentage value of their respective shares of the whole export trade of the Colony for the last two years:—

—	1902.	1903.
	£	£
Total exports of the Colony	1,337,865	1,146,323
Specie exported...	78,182	231,374
Exports less specie	1,259,683	914,949
	£ Per cent.	£ Per cent.
Exports to Germany	829,913=65·9	598,710=65·4
„ „ Great Britain	358,975=28·5	274,456=29·9
„ „ other places	70,795= 5·6	41,783= 4·5
	1,259,683	914,949

It is shewn above that the exports to Germany consist principally of palm kernels, the most desirable export. These exports, therefore, represent a value and importance relatively greater than is set out by the mean percentage of 65·6 shewn in the last preceding table as Germany's share of the Colony's exports for 1902 and 1903.

31. Increase in the exports of the Colony may reasonably be expected as regards cocoa, palm produce, rubber, cotton, and corn. It is neither likely nor desirable that the export of timber should become greater than it is at present, on account of the waste and destruction in felling immature trees. The export of rubber probably cannot in the present generation reach permanently the figures attained in 1896. Cotton should become the greatest and most important export next to palm produce. But cotton, unless grown by irrigation on the Oshun and other rivers, will probably to even a greater extent than palm produce be subject to the fluctuations of a variable rainfall. The increase in the output of cotton can be, and should be, much more rapid than in the case of the slower growing palm tree.

When all the cocoanut trees that have been planted come into bearing, there will be a considerable advance in the export of copra; but the cocoanut tree is not the palm of the Yoruba.

There is no probability of any mineral export from Lagos, as nothing of any commercial value has been discovered in the several hundreds of geological specimens collected and properly examined during the last four years.

Probably an important sea fishery could be established, but that would be for the inland market only.

32. In the following TABLE are shewn the PRINCIPAL IMPORTS 1903, giving the QUANTITY and VALUE of

IM-

Article.	1894.		1895.		1896.		1897.		1898.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Building materials	Pkgs. 22,383	£ 12,627	Pkgs. 27,656	£ 14,270	Pkgs. 94,764	£ 21,891	Pkgs. 35,841	£ 18,050	Pkgs. 27,705	£ 22,621
Cottons	15,613	278,474	16,096	255,115	19,683	350,258	15,361	297,636	19,238	339,779
Haberdashery ..	1,875	18,594	1,536	14,934	1,971	18,521	2,289	16,552	1,713	14,701
Hardware	3,857	13,157	6,285	12,231	5,502	18,102	9,887	17,836	7,152	20,731
Liquor. Geneva ..	Galls. 1,001,731	82,457	Galls. 940,530	65,455	Galls. 442,865	27,699	Galls. 480,610	31,049	Galls. 504,808	34,060
Liquor. Rum	650,992	32,666	784,549	31,875	778,290	28,360	730,694	27,199	843,159	40,037
Liquor. Whiskey ..	3,155	1,403	4,986	2,071	4,054	1,704	5,644	2,536	6,126	2,514
Liquor. Wines ..	9,752	3,210	8,062	2,877	10,590	3,268	11,071	3,649	8,440	3,194
Salt	Tons. 6,093	8,801	Tons. 5,175	7,089	Tons. 5,252	7,434	Tons. 4,645	6,341	Tons 5,336	8,480
Tobacco	Lbs. 693,824	15,871	Lbs. 941,248	20,037	Lbs. 749,350	15,127	Lbs. 817,169	16,182	Lbs 869,111	19,240
Other articles ..	—	276,301	—	389,809	—	409,108	—	333,481	—	403,082
TOTAL ..	—	744,561	—	815,815	—	901,475	—	770,510	—	908,351

into the COLONY for the TEN YEARS ending with DECEMBER the several classes of articles specified therein.

PORTS.

1899.		1900.		1901.		1902.		1903.		Article.
Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
Pkgs. 29,254	£ 25,232	Pkgs. 28,635	£ 32,836	Pkgs. 26,524	£ 28,975	Pkgs. 36,631	£ 26,898	Pkgs. 47,936	£ 30,911	Building materials
14,939	305,437	13,705	330,892	15,718	323,944	17,005	434,172	14,633	381,937	Cottons.
2,019	20,199	2,239	16,623	1,846	15,559	2,625	18,519	2,507	18,275	Haberdashery.
5,521	19,349	8,181	24,048	9,637	28,222	6,424	14,125	8,449	14,819	Hardware.
Galls. 491,227	34,018	Galls. 456,517	34,912	Galls. 460,456	37,039	Galls. 632,423	51,542	Galls. 515,545	43,420	Geneva. (Liquor.)
545,039	24,968	435,346	18,378	474,149	20,694	609,833	23,977	546,669	22,991	Rum. (Liquor.)
6,308	2,502	5,004	2,067	4,361	1,882	5,293	1,658	6,655	2,867	Whiskey. (Liquor.)
9,302	12,274	8,461	2,735	9,287	3,153	13,205	2,742	16,070	2,835	Wines. (Liquor.)
Tons. 5,846	7,119	Tons. 4,828	5,982	Tons. 6,088	9,026	Tons. 5,665	6,934	Tons. 5,808	7,883	Salt.
Lbs. 946,684	19 964	Lbs. 889,383	18,059	Lbs. 874,099	18,153	Lbs. 1,046,877	21,171	Lbs. 1,164,963	24,423	Tobacco.
—	495,450	—	343,804	—	247,478	—	328,959	—	313,764	Other articles.
—	966,595	—	830,469	—	737,285	—	930,745	—	864,147	TOTAL.

33. *Building Materials.*—The first article on the list, building materials, has remained tolerably uniform, the figures for the first and last years of the decade being practically the same. This might be reasonably expected in a Colony that can never be a home for a European race, and of which the native occupants are tenaciously conservative. It is, however, the case that considerable quantities of European building materials, chiefly in the form of galvanised iron for roofing houses, are now used by natives, especially at Lagos and Abeokuta. The advantages of this roof are its greater permanency, its less liability to fire, and that it is better adapted for collecting rain water for domestic purposes. On the other hand, it is not nearly such a good protection against the rays of the sun as a roof of grass. The imports of corrugated iron were, in 1902, £15,103; in 1903, £21,875.

Railway materials for construction have not been included in the return of building materials given above. But the actual buildings required in connection with railway construction added largely to the total value of such materials imported in the years 1899 to 1901.

The origin of these imports was:—

—	1902.	1903.
	£	£
From Great Britain	21,106	27,872
„ Germany	4,073	1,871
„ Grand Canary	707	773
„ New York	628	148
„ Elsewhere	384	245
Total	26,898	30,909

34. *Cotton Goods.*—The declared value of cotton goods imported into the Colony remained practically the same from 1896 to 1901 inclusive, averaging for those six years £325,219. The import for 1896, the culminating year for the export of rubber, was not surpassed by any subsequent year till the record import of 1902, £434,238, was reached. The great advance of that phenomenally prosperous year was not maintained in 1903, which, however, with an import of £381,959, exceeded any previous year except its immediate predecessor.

The fact that the rate of duty on cotton goods was doubled in March, 1901, has not retarded the expansion of this import.

Imports of cotton goods for the last five years have been as follows, according to nationality of origin:—

Year.	British.	German.	Others.	Total.	Duty collected.
	£	£	£	£	£ Per cent.
1899 ...	303,231	2,058	148	305,437	15,272 at 5 *ad valorem.*
1900 ...	327,919	2,716	257	330,892	16,545 „ 5 „ „
1901 ...	321,584	2.083	277	323,944	25,018 „ 10 „ „
1902 ...	415,398	18,050	724	434,172	43,417 „ 10 „ „
1903 ...	372,309	8,338	1,290	381,937	38,194 „ 10 „ „

The greater part of this branch of trade still remains British, as shewn by the above figures, which represent these percentages for the two last years:—

Imports of Cotton Goods.	1902.	1903.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
From Great Britain ...	95·6	97·4
„ Germany ...	4·1	2·1
„ Elsewhere ...	·3	·5

In spite of the increased importation of cotton goods, there seems to be no foundation for believing that the native loom is falling into disuse. The recent increase in the purchase of these goods is only a result of the greater prosperity and buying power of the people. It has been contemporaneous with the largely increased exports from the country.

35. *Haberdashery.*—This import remains practically unaltered in the last decade, the value of the imports in 1894 actually exceeding those of 1903 by £319. On the articles entered inwards in 1902, the value of £15,400 came from Great Britain; £2,342 from Germany; and the remainder of £421 came from 23 other ports.

In 1903, the value imported from Great Britain was £16,561; from Germany £1,101; and the remainder, £613, from 28 other places.

36. *Hardware.*—This class of goods tends to increase, but only slowly and with considerable irregularity. The imports of

1894, £13,157, are only £1,662 behind those of 1903, at £14,819. The highest figure ever reached was £28,222 in 1901.

In 1902 the value of imports was:—

—	1902.	1903.
	£	£
From Great Britain ...	10,058	11,547
„ Germany ...	2,982	3,048

37. *Liquor.*—The fiscal aspect of liquor imports has been discussed above in paragraph 4. In the table below are given for the period of ten years ending with 1903, the quantity, the absolute value, and the percentage value, as compared with total imports, of the liquor imported each year:—

LIQUOR IMPORTS (RUM, GIN, WINE, WHISKEY, BRANDY.)

Year	Quantity.	Value.	Per cent of Total Imports.
	Gallons.	£	
1894	1,665,544	116,526	15·65
1895	1,737,816	99,401	12·18
1896	1,233,695	57,763	6·4
1897	1,237,580	60,784	7·8
1898	1,363,342	76,611	8·4
1899	1,051,045	61,489	6·3
1900	906,419	58,853	7·1
1901	962,504	62,878	8·5
1902	1,247,550	77,177	8·3
1903	1,069,067	69,278	8·0

It would appear from this table that the proportionate value of the imports of spirits to the total imports remains now stationary at about 8·3 per cent. of the whole. It is also clear that the increase of duty from 2*s.* to 3*s.* a gallon diminished materially the actual consumption of spirits. The average yearly imports for the five years preceding the increase of duty were 1,447,595 gallons; of the next five years 1,047,317 gallons, or a difference of 400,278 gallons, or a reduction of 27·6 per cent.

The total population of the Lagos territory may be taken to be 1,750,000. The above figures would give on the last five years a consumption of about three-fifths of a gallon for each person. But in several provinces practically no imported liquor is consumed.

The origin of the spirits imported is a matter of great interest, and is set out, in gallons, in the table below:—

COUNTRIES of ORIGIN of SPIRITS IMPORTED.

Year.	Germany.	Great Britain.	Holland.	Elsewhere.	Total.
	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
1894	1,643,451	9,774	—	12,319	1,665,544
1895	1,711,337	9,245	—	17,224	1,737,816
1896	1,209,778	5,100	—	18,817	1,233,695
1897	1,210,264	11,896	—	15,420	1,237,580
1898	1,331,083	12,267	—	19,992	1,363,342
1899	1,024,329	7,901	—	18,766	1,051,045
1900	381,909	20,176	—	4,334	906,419
1901	936,895	17,021	—	8,588	962,504
1902	1,202,719	8,007	29,692	7,132	1,247 550
1903	967,986	9,469	80,761	10,941	1,069,067

Of the spirits classified under the heading of "Elsewhere," by far the greater quantity is rum from Brazil, which amounted to 6,389 gallons in 1902, and to 9,961 gallons in 1903.

Nearly the whole of the spirits imported consists of what may be called "Trade Spirits":—

—	1902.	1903.
	Gallons.	Gallons.
Alcohol	393,166	326,499
Geneva	632,423	515,545
Rum	215,586	218,703

In this connection it should be noted how the strength of the spirits imported has gradually increased. In 1892 gin was 33·9 under proof. In 1897 it was 27·9 under proof. In 1901 it was 22·5 under proof, thus containing by volume 44·21 per cent. of absolute alcohol.

Similarly in 1892 rum was 36·5 under proof; in 1897 it was 19·9 under proof; and in 1901 it was 8·9 under proof.

It was probably in some measure a desire to meet the growing taste for stronger liquor that led to the introduction of the product known to the trade as "Alcohol." It appears first as a separate specific import in the returns for 1901.

This import in 1901-2 contained 90 per cent. by volume of absolute alcohol; or, in other words, was 57·5 over proof. But samples were imported containing as much as 98·14 per cent. of absolute alcohol.

It was never contended even by the importers that this potent beverage would not be deleterious if consumed by a human being; but it was argued in its favour that it was always

diluted before it was sent up country. It was soon proved, however, that dilution did not always take place before consumption. The increased quantity of this exceedingly strong liquor that was being imported had become very remarkable, not to say, alarming. In 1901-2, for example, the quantity of under-proof spirit imported was 835,681 gallons, and the quantity over proof 107,432 gallons. As shewn above, no less than 393,166 gallons of "alcohol" was imported in 1902, and 326,499 gallons in 1903.

In 1902 it was found that at least much of the "alcohol" that was being imported was noxiously impure. Of eleven samples analysed, ten taken from spirits in bond and one purchased in the market, one, containing 83·91 per cent. by weight of absolute alcohol, was found to yield 4·31 per cent. by weight of the highly deleterious ingredient known as fusel oil. The least impure specimen in the eleven examined contained 81·50 per cent. of absolute alcohol, and 1·26 per cent. by weight of fusel oil. The average percentage of fusel oil in the eleven specimens was 2·68. It was manifestly impossible to allow such dangerous compounds as these to be imported or sold to the public. A bill was submitted to the Legislature to prohibit the importation or sale of liquor containing fusel oil in greater proportion than one-half per cent. This proposal met with opposition from the representatives, of some at least, of the importers, but their principals approved of the measure, and it was passed into law.

As there is a very large importation of "alcohol" into the neighbouring port of the French Colony of Dahomey, it was not possible to prohibit the importation of alcohol into Lagos.

But under the Toll Regulations of Abeokuta and Ibadan, the two great liquor consuming provinces of the Lagos territory, the importation of any liquor stronger than proof is now prohibited. This will doubtless reduce the importations of "alcohol" at the port of Lagos.

From the figures given above, it will be observed that the importation of liquor still remains practically a German monopoly. The figures below will show in what percentage proportions liquor was brought from the several countries concerned:—

Year.	Germany.	Great Britain.	Holland.	Elsewhere.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
1899	97·4	0·75	—	—
1902	96·4	0·65	2·4	0·5
1903	90·5	0·88	7·5	1·2

It is of interest to notice that the German monopoly appears to be about to be effectively challenged by Holland. Whatever is lost to the German manufacturer seems to pass not to Great

Britain, but to the Dutch. The circumstances under which this transition is taking place are well worth the serious attention of the British merchant. The share that the manufacturer in Great Britain has in this large trade is, it must be admitted, ridiculously small. It is principally confined to the supply of whiskey, of which upwards of five-sixths of the whole supply of 6,655 gallons in 1903 came from Great Britain.

38. *Salt.*—The following table shews the importation of salt from 1899 to 1904 inclusive, expressed in tons, and gives the origin of the several imports, and the percentage from each country concerned:—

Year.	Great Britain.	Germany.	Other places.	Total.
	Tons. Per cent.	Tons. Per cent.	Tons.	Tons.
1899	3,810=65·1	2,035=34·8	—	5,846
1900	3,808=78·8	1,019=21·1	—	4,827
1901	4,723=77·6	1,365=22·4	—	6,088
1902	3,294=58·1	2,338=41·3	33	5,665
1903	3,879=66·8	1,929=33·2	—	5,808

The large descent in imports of salt in 1900 was no doubt due in whole or in large part to the raising of the duty in December, 1899, from 5*s* to 20*s*. a ton.

British salt obtained a clear preponderance over German salt in 1900 and 1901, but it does not appear to be able to maintain its supremacy.

Native-made salt has practically disappeared from the local markets. That made from the shekele leaves and sea water in the east end of the territory consisted of the chlorides of sodium and potassium 84·3 per cent., and of the sulphates of potassium and magnesium 15 per cent. It was thus a very impure salt, and was prepared with great labour. It could not, therefore, compete with imported salt, and the only native product that could do so in any degree, is the so-called "potash" of trade, which is imported, now at least, chiefly from Southern Nigeria, and is of course not dutiable. It is understood that it all comes originally from Northern Nigeria. It was found on analysis to contain only soda compounds, chiefly the carbonate. The imports of this article have been:—

Year.	Imports.	Value.	Duty.
	Tons.	£	Per cent.
1898...	102	5,099	5
1899...	139½	5,534	5
1900...	19¼	399	free
1901...	3	133	"
1902...	23¾	989	"
1903...	60⅔	2,325	"

It is very remarkable that the quantity of this so-called "potash" imported into Lagos should have decreased so much when it ceased to be dutiable. It was soon after that date that it was found on analysis to contain no potash. Clearly it is no serious competitor with salt, at least at Lagos; but it may be very different in Northern Nigeria, which has not increased its trade in salt with Lagos.

The contrast in declared value is very remarkable. The average declared value of the European salt imported during the last five years has been £1 6*s*. 2*d*. a ton; the declared value of the so-called "potash" for the same period has been £38 5*s*. 8*d*. a ton. The "potash" is eaten by both man and animals.

39. *Tobacco.*—The imports of tobacco for the two last years have been from the countries, and to the value, shewn below:—

Countries.	1902.	1903.
	lbs.	lbs.
Manufactured—		
Great Britain	967	1,026
Porto Novo	35	128
Cape Coast	—	80
Germany	—	256
Total	1,002	1,490
Unmanufactured—		
Great Britain	967,907	971,941
Brazil	58,175	62,169
Porto Novo	905	156
Germany	118,888	129,207
Total	1,045,875	1,163,473
Grand Total	1,046,877	1,164,963

Cigars and cigarettes are not included with the above. They were imported as follows:—

—	1902.		1903.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
Cigarettes	1,295,570	1,115	1,479,732	1,063
Cigars	611,669	1,643	1,158,631	1,879

Tobacco of good quality is grown locally, and it is, therefore, improbable that there will be any very considerable increase in the imports of this article. An excise tax on local-grown tobacco could not be collected. Any further increase of duty would probably only tend to reduce imports, and would not yield additional revenue.

40. *Other Articles.*—The following classes of imports embraced by this heading exceeded £10,000 in value in 1902, or 1903:—

Beads, valued at £18,559 in 1902, and at £19,180 in 1903. Those imported from Germany in 1902 were valued at £9,093, and at £11,154 in 1903; from Great Britain, 1902, £9,312, and for £6,725 in 1903.

Kola Nuts, for £34,207 in 1902, and for £38,862 in 1903. In the latter year £38,154 was paid by Lagos to the Gold Coast for this article. There is good reason to believe that the Lagos territory can grow kola nuts equal to those produced on the Gold Coast.

Kerosene was imported as follows:— 1902, 314,268 gallons, at £8,876; 1903, 529,298 gallons, at £11,958. It comes to Lagos from the Grand Canaries, New York, and Germany.

Shooks and hoop iron were imported to the value of £31,840 in 1902; to the value of £17,261 in 1903.

Silk imports were valued at £11,038 in 1902, and at £8,290 in 1903.

41. The whole of the import trade of the Colony was divided thus, according to nationality, in the year 1903:—

	Value.	
Imports from Great Britain ...	£638,555 = 73·8	per cent. of the whole.
" " Germany ...	147,933 = 17·1	" "
" " elsewhere ...	77,659 = 9·1	" "
Total ...	£864,147 = 100	

In the imports from Great Britain are comprised in specie, £667; and railway material, £34,566.

42. The whole trade of the Colony—excluding specie—imports, £863,480, and exports, £914,949, together amounting to £1,778,429—was distributed as follows, according to nationality, value, and percentage proportion of the whole for the year 1903:—

Great Britain:—

Imports ...	£638,555	
Exports ...	£274,456	
Total ...	£913,011	= 51·3 per cent. of the whole trade.

Germany:—		
Imports ...	£147,933	
Exports ...	£598,710	
Total ...	£746,643	= 42·0 per cent. of the whole trade.

Elsewhere:—		
Imports ...	£77,659	
Exports ...	£41,783	
Total ...	£119,442	= 6·7 per cent. of the whole trade.

According to these figures little more than half of the whole trade of the Colony is in the hands of British merchants.

Shipping.

43. The following tables of shipping have been prepared to shew details of vessels entered and cleared, tonnage, and crews, according to nationality. It has been given for three years, with five-yearly intervals between them.

The figures would seem to indicate two facts: that the increase in British tonnage is not so great in proportion as is the increase in German tonnage; and that the proportion of German tonnage to their carrying trade is considerably less than in the case of the British ships. Thus, Germany, with 31 per cent. of the tonnage, carries 42 per cent. of the imports and exports, while British ships, with 70 per cent. of the tonnage, carry 51·3 per cent. of the imports and exports. The British ships, however carry many more Lagos passengers than the German ships.

TABLES OF SHIPPING.

18

Nationalities.	Entered.								
	With Cargo.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
Great Britain...	245	280,487	9,065	13	4,755	526	258	285,242	9,591
Germany ...	151	91,939	5,158	23	5,321	791	174	97,260	5,949
Others	9	887	154	—	—	—	9	887	154
Total ...	405	373,313	14,377	36	10,076	1,317	441	383,389	15,694

18

Great Britain...	296	342,145	11,969	4	4,614	144	300	346,757	12,113
Germany ...	174	116,976	5,280	9	2,570	256	183	119,546	5,536
Others	6	13,106	348	—	—	—	6	13,106	348
Total ...	476	472,225	17,597	13	7,184	400	489	479,409	17,997

19

Great Britain...	284	423,922	14,152	44	9,672	1,397	328	433,594	15,549
Germany ...	196	193,724	8,702	4	420	81	200	194,144	8,783
Others	1	675	20	—	—	—	1	675	20
Total ...	481	618,321	22,874	48	10,092	1,478	529	627,738	24,354

Percentage Table of Vessels, Crews,

18

Nationalities.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
Great Britain	58·5	74·4	61·1
Germany	39·4	25·3	37·9
Others	2·4	·2	·9

18

Great Britain	61·3	72·3	67·3
Germany	32·4	24·9	30·7
Others	1·2	2·7	1·8

19

Great Britain	62·0	69·9	63·9
Germany	37·8	30·9	36·0
Others	0·5	0·01	0·01

94.

Cleared.									Nationalities.
With Cargo.			In Ballast.			Total.			
Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	
232	269,635	8,494	15	6,106	586	247	275,741	9,080	Great Britain.
160	90,506	8,153	20	3,033	482	180	93,539	8,635	Germany.
7	812	107	4	104	50	11	916	157	Others.
399	360,953	16,754	39	9,243	1,118	438	370,196	17,872	Total.

99.

296	340,997	11,462	19	8,658	836	315	349,655	12,298	Great Britain.
158	119,562	5,016	39	5,543	932	197	125,105	5,948	Germany.
6	13,106	328	—	—	—	6	13,106	328	Others.
460	473,665	16,806	58	14,201	1,768	518	487,866	18,574	Total.

03.

306	426,815	14,846	22	6,242	763	328	433,057	15,582	Great Britain.
118	179,811	5,919	81	12,366	2,830	199	192,117	8,749	Germany.
1	675	20	—	—	—	1	675	20	Others.
425	607,301	20,745	103	18,548	3,606	528	625,849	24,351	Total.

and TONNAGE, INWARDS and OUTWARDS.

94.

Nationalities.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
Great Britain.	56·3	74·4	50·8
Germany.	41·0	25·2	48·3
Others.	2·5	·2	·8

99.

Great Britain.	60·8	71·6	66·2
Germany.	32·3	25·6	32·0
Others.	1·2	2·6	1·2

03.

Great Britain.	62·0	69·5	68·01
Germany.	37·4	30·7	31·8
Others.	0·2	0·1	0·08

Agriculture.

44. As it is fully recognised that the future of the country depends on agriculture, the Government, and the chiefs and farmers alike, have begun to give earnest attention to this most important subject.

At Oloke-Meji nearly 30 acres of land has been laid out in garden and farm plots. Some 60,000 kola plants were there at the end of the year 1903, ready to be given out to native farmers at the commencement of the next rainy season. There were several hundreds of seedlings of different kinds of hardwood and of fruit trees, all of which would be given away at merely nominal prices. Experiments were carried on with the indigenous and with introduced kinds of cotton to determine their respective merits, and to evolve the cottons that should be the best adapted to the country. Many different kinds of industrial plants have been introduced, and are being tried there experimentally.

During the year a first attempt was made at an Agricultural Show at Lagos; this proved successful much beyond the most sanguine expectations. Some 20,000 people, it was estimated, were present each of the two days the show was open. Chiefs and people attended and sent exhibits from the most distant provinces of the territory. The Show undoubtedly did much to increase the enthusiasm with which the Yoruba people are now turning to agriculture. Advantage was taken of this to found an Agricultural Union, the seat of which is at the capital, but which will have provincial branches at suitable centres all over the country. The objects of the Union are chiefly to introduce new varieties of implements, and new or better economic plants, that may be cultivated on a large scale for the purposes of trade. It will also assist in carrying on experiments at model farms and at botanic stations.

III.—LEGISLATION.

45. There was no legislation of serious importance during the year.

The Adulteration of Food Ordinance is chiefly of interest on account of the provision it contains to secure the comparative purity of the trade liquor entering the port, which has already been noticed above.

A Trade Marks Ordinance and a Designs Ordinance, though based on legislation elsewhere, did not in practice give satisfaction to the merchants concerned, and those measures can hardly, therefore, be regarded as definitive parts of the statute book.

A Law was passed to prevent the use of apparatus for wireless telegraphy without Government sanction.

The Newspaper Ordinance is practically the same as the law in force relating to this subject in some of the West Indian Colonies. It requires the owner or publisher of a newspaper to furnish a moderate security, without in any way putting restraint on free and full discussion.

Some half-score meetings of the Native Central Council were held at Lagos. These were of much use to the administration in supplying information, in giving advice, and in making known the attitude of the native mind on many important questions.

IV.—HOSPITALS.

46. During 1903, 822 patients were admitted into Lagos Hospital for treatment. The surroundings of the hospital have been greatly improved by filling up the wet and formerly swampy land near to it. All the water tanks have been made mosquito-proof. The European wards are fully provided with mosquito-proof rooms, and all the native wards have mosquito nets amply provided for them. The condition of the hospital in regard to cleanliness, supplies of linen, ventilation, and general management was highly satisfactory.

It does not appear desirable to at present build more large hospitals. Those erected at Badagry and at Epé are not used to such an extent as to encourage the building of hospitals; but, on the other hand, dispensaries do a great deal of good, being much more popular.

The vaccination returns shew 55,192 successful cases out of 110,188 vaccinated. Of the successful cases, 17,768 were at Lagos itself. A scheme was worked out for vaccinating the whole territory within a reasonable time, for small-pox rages constantly at different points in the country, and often produces great mortality.

V.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Judicial Matters.

47. Perhaps the most important event of the year was the conclusion of an agreement with the Alake and Council of Abeokuta for the better administration of justice in the Egba country.

Up to the present time the Council of Chiefs has acted as a court of justice in each district of the Lagos territory not under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, and has dealt with all causes, whether civil or criminal. In many cases, however, punishments and decisions were dealt out by single chiefs or

their representatives, often more or less irregularly and clandestinely. It was inevitable that such a state of matters should be attended by numerous instances of miscarriage of justice, and should give rise to many acts of gross oppression, which were very frequently committed to gratify the caprice, the personal feelings, or the cupidity of a chief who was in all except notorious cases practically irresponsible. It was felt and known that this was the weakest spot in native administration. But to this was also added, through the extension of the railway to Abeokuta and Ibadan, a new set of commercial cases, to deal with which the chiefs were without the necessary knowledge and experience, in which neither tradition nor native custom could guide them.

Much time and patience had to be given to this subject to make it clear to the chiefs concerned. Naturally they regarded it at first as making a serious inroad into their authority. The principle of the agreement is that the Chief Justice of Lagos shall sit at Abeokuta with Egba assessors to try all cases of homicide occurring in the province, and all mixed cases reaching a certain standard of importance, and that other mixed cases shall be heard by a mixed court. In all but very small cases there is an appeal from the Mixed Court to the Supreme Court. Cases that concern only Egbas are dealt with by Egba Courts, with the exception of cases of homicide. The late Bashorun of Ibadan had before his death practically accepted this solution of the question. There can be no doubt that the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court will in this peaceful way be easily and speedily extended over the whole territory, to the advantage of commerce, the great profit of the people, without creating discontent among the chiefs, and without impairing their legitimate and effective authority among their own people.

Cotton.

48. Two cotton experts of American experience were at work during the year. They reported on the suitability or otherwise of the country for the cultivation of this product. Their general opinion is that a large export of cotton may with confidence be expected from the Lagos territory, especially from the Ekiti, Ilesha, Oshogbo, and Oyo provinces, where there are large areas of suitable land. In Ekiti, for example, there is in the absence of any considerable palm forest no staple industry, while there is a great area of fertile land and a large population willing to work on their own soil could they only find some suitable industry. Cotton seems to be well adapted to meet this desideratum. The planting of cotton received a severe check when the Cotton Association decided to cease to buy cotton, and the price was forced down to a halfpenny or three-farthings a pound. But the enthusiasm of chiefs and people was restored by the subsequent undertaking by the Association to pay a minimum price of a penny a pound for un-

ginned cotton for three years. It is at present being carried free of freight by the Government railway and by Messrs. Elder, Dempster & Co.

Railway Construction.

49. No extension of the existing line was undertaken during the year, but construction was practically completed with the year as far as regards the full length of the railway that has up to the present been undertaken. It was decided that when the line is extended it shall go by way of the towns of Iwo, Edé, and Oshogbo, where the terminus might for some time remain. Repeated examination of that part of the Lagos territory confirmed the previously formed opinion of those well-fitted to judge, that this part of the country is unusually fertile. A railway terminus at Oshogbo would be close to the fine lands and forests of Ilesha, and would be within practical reach of the Great Ekiti country. The length of line from Ibadan, the present inland terminus, to Oshogbo would be about 72 miles, and the cost of construction would in round numbers probably be about £500,000. All those that examined the question of this extension on the spot arrived at a general consensus of opinion that this extension should be undertaken at the earliest possible moment.

General Condition.

50. The general condition of the Colony and of the Protectorate was satisfactory. There is no reason to believe that there is a single disloyal chief, or even a chief of loubtful loyalty, in the whole territory. The position and authority of the hereditary and elected chiefs has as far as possible been maintained; but development has been proceeding so rapidly that many chiefs have been placed in a somewhat difficult position between the older and more conservative elements on one side, and the younger men that wish to go faster on the other side. There is, however, on all sides an intense desire that they, the natives, should continue to manage their own domestic concerns. This desire is largely met by the regularly established and recognised Native Councils. There was not in the course of the year a single question of trouble or anxiety in connection with these councils, which are generally conducted with great decorum, order, and regularity. Councils of this kind are, indeed, very ancient institutions in the land, and now, when regulated and officially recognised, they are of the greatest use in preventing oppression and in improving native administration generally. They invariably shewed themselves to be ready and willing to consider any suggestions made to them.

Practically no slave cases arose during the year. The importation of slaves from the interior seems to be extinct, and slavery as an institution is now in this territory in a state of decrepitude.

The sale and transfer of land is now well understood and is common at the town of Lagos, but is universally held to be contrary to native law and usage beyond the precincts of the town of Lagos. During the year land was leased by the native authorities to Europeans in the towns of Abeokuta and Ibadan, but no land was sold to them. The farmer plants on his own land, on the land of his family, or on the land of the tribe. In any case the land he uses is held to be his private property so long as he occupies it. Some time may yet elapse before land is sold to Europeans in native towns. As far as regards planting-land this does not cause any inconvenience, as it is quite clear that this territory can never be occupied by a white race.

During the year many important chiefs declared themselves as hostile to the consumption by the people of large quantities of imported liquors. Certain districts, it was found, have ceased to import or use spirits in any form. The native beers and palm wine are practically non-intoxicants. Not a few leading men urged a greater return to these beverages. As a matter of fact, one hardly ever sees a drunken man in a native town.

Although there was a great scarcity of rain during the year, there was apparently no want of food among the natives. They are frugal in food and easily satisfied.

The seclusion of the chiefs is fast giving way, and, indeed, received a severe blow by a visit paid in 1903 to Lagos by the Oni of Ife, the head of the most ancient chiefly family in the country.

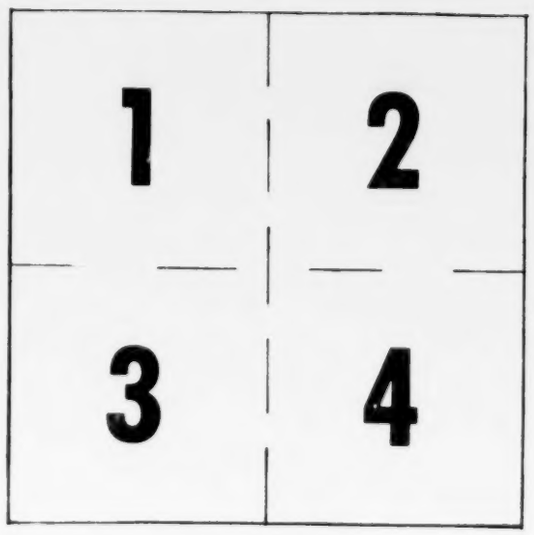
There can be no doubt that the chiefs and people of the hinterland have made considerable advance in knowledge during the last two or three years. When considering regulations for collecting rubber last year, they expressed very decided opinions in favour of excluding from their forests the natives that live near the coast, in order that they should exploit their forest produce on their own account.

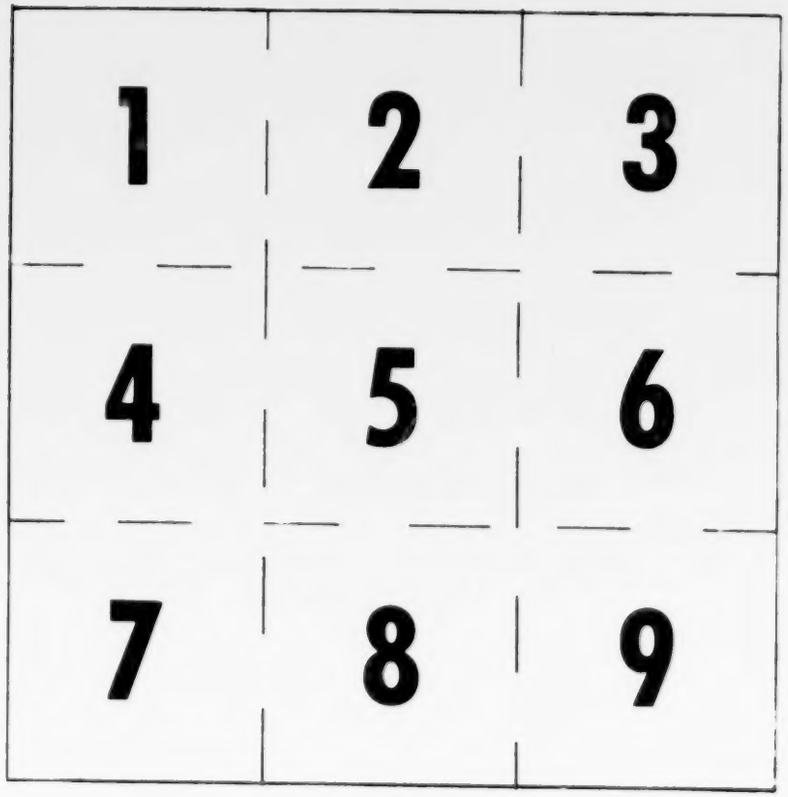
The instinct of rule is not strange to the race, and it was not difficult to maintain peace and order in the territory in the year last past, as had similarly been the case in the four years that preceded it.

WM. MACGREGOR.

19th August, 1904.

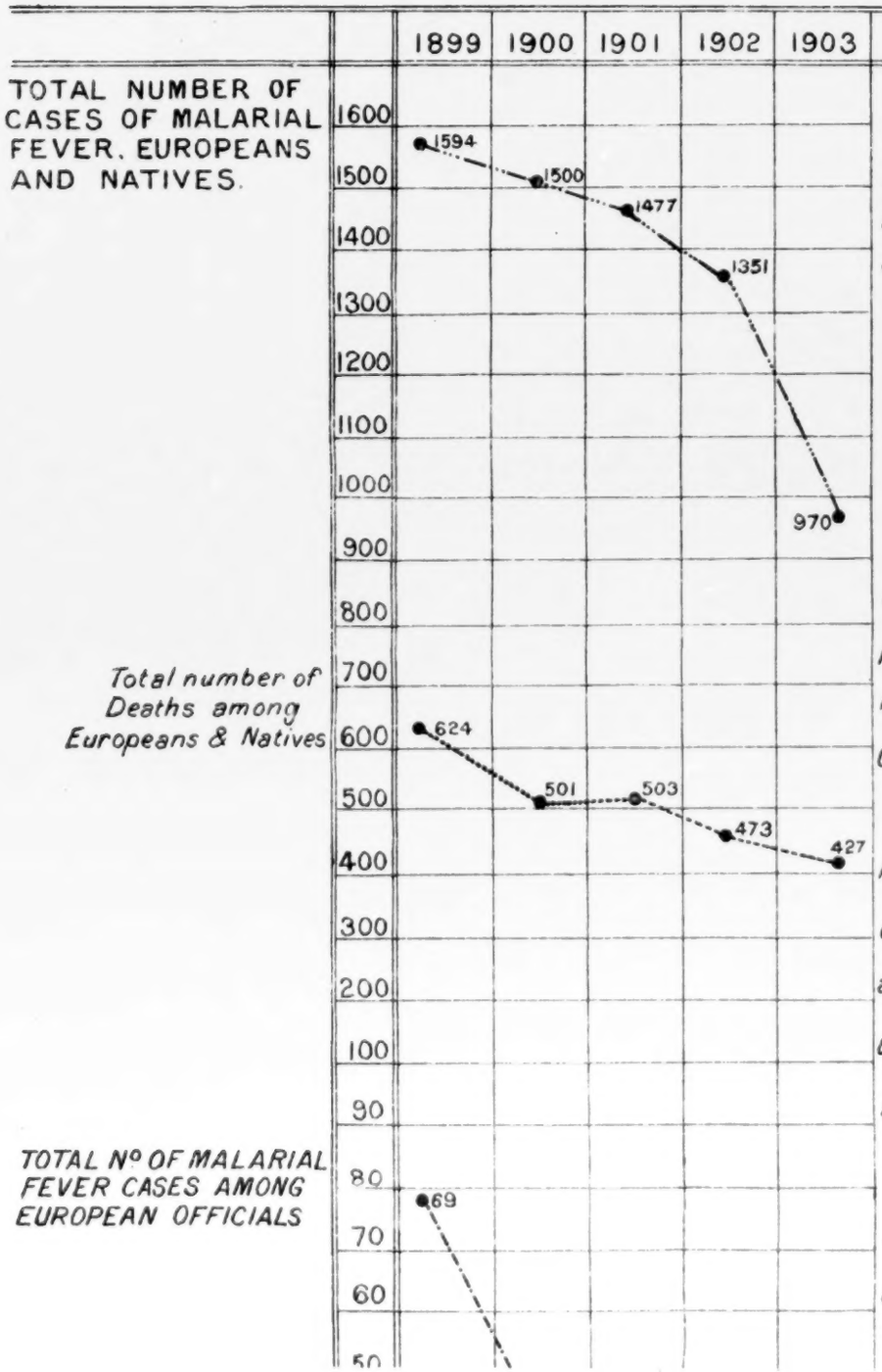
Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.





LAGOS, WEST AFRICA.

Total Number of Malarial Fever Cases including deaths recorded among the Europeans and Natives. (Officials and Non Officials) from 1899-1903 inclusive.



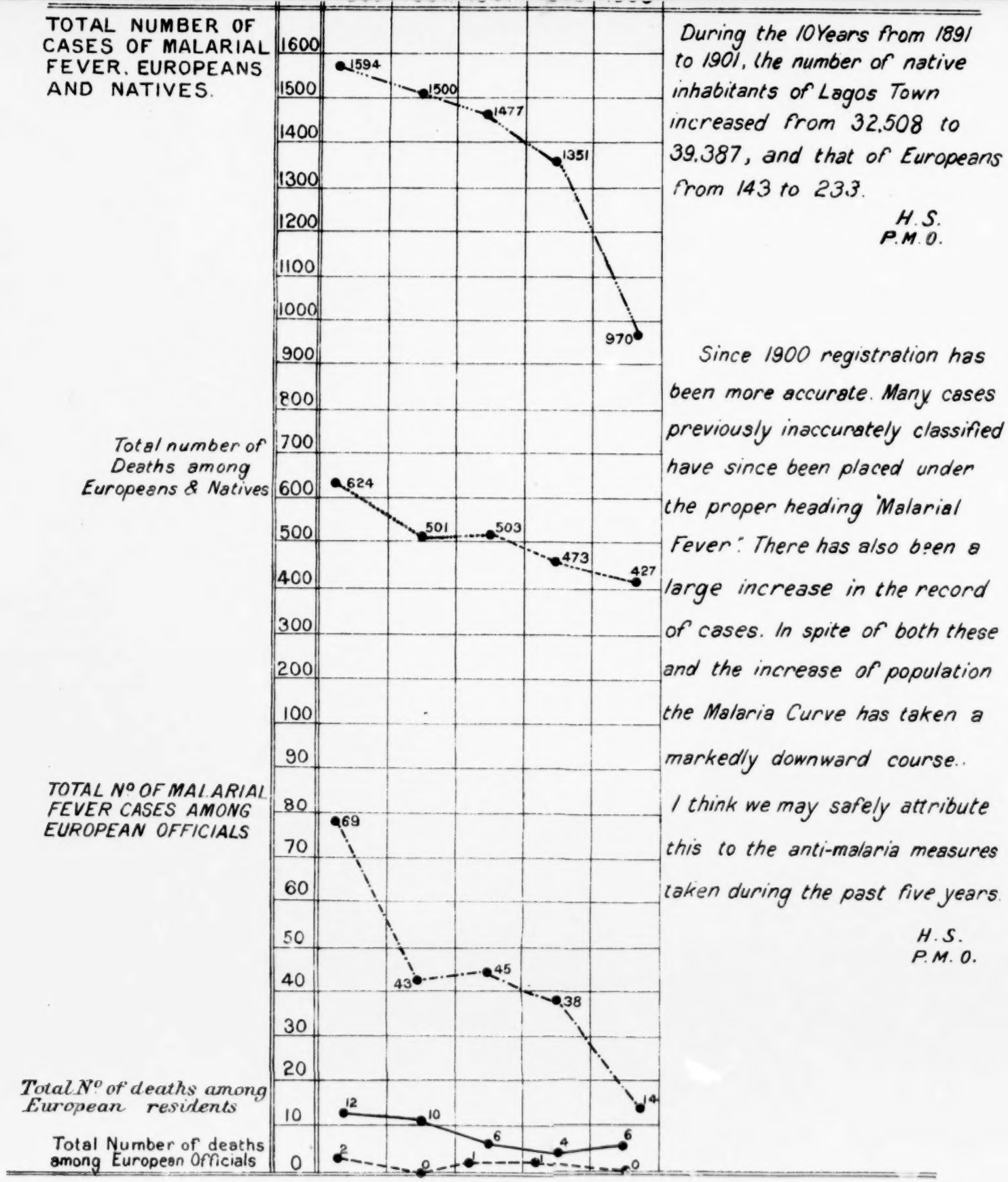
During the 10 Years from 1891 to 1901, the number of native inhabitants of Lagos Town increased from 32,508 to 39,387, and that of Europeans from 143 to 233.

H.S.
P.M.O.

Since 1900 registration has been more accurate. Many cases previously inaccurately classified have since been placed under the proper heading 'Malarial Fever'. There has also been a large increase in the record of cases. In spite of both these and the increase of population the Malaria Curve has taken a markedly downward course..

I think we may safely attribute this to the anti-malaria measures taken during the past five years.

H.S.



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H. S.
P.M.O.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No	Colony.	Year.
407	Trinidad and Tobago	1902–1903
408	Basutoland	„
409	Northern Nigeria	1902
410	Malta	1902–1903
411	St. Lucia	1902
412	Mauritius	„
413	British Guiana	1902–1903
414	Jamaica	„
—	Bahamas (Printed separately as [Cd. 1935]) ...	1902
415	Falkland Islands	1903
416	Leeward Islands	1902–1903
417	British Honduras	1903
418	Bermuda	„
419	Weihaiwei	„
420	St. Helena	„
421	Hong Kong	„
422	Gibraltar	„
423	Sierra Leone	„
424	Gambia	„
425	Ceylon	„
426	Gold Coast	„

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacon.
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 470.

LAGOS.

REPORT FOR 1904.

(For Report for 1903, *see* No. 427.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1905.

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1905.

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No. 470.

LAGOS.

(For Report for 1903 *see* No. 427.)

MR. THORBURN to MR. LYTTELTON.

Government House,
Lagos,
9th September, 1905.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to enclose copy of a report on the Blue Book for 1904, compiled by Mr. Speed, Acting Colonial Secretary.

2. I would invite attention to the paragraphs dealing with trade, which were written by Mr. Birtwistle, and especially to those dealing with the countries of origin of imports.

I have, &c.,
J. J. THORBURN,
Acting Governor.

1000 Wt 23792 11/05 D & S 5 22708 A 2

REPORT ON THE LAGOS BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1904.

FINANCIAL.

1. The total revenue for the financial year ending 31st March, 1904, was £334,695 16*s.* 10*d.*

The total expenditure for the same period was £303,085 16*s.* 5*d.*

This leaves a balance on the year's transactions of £31,610 in favour of the Treasury.

The railway revenue for the same period was £51,072, and the expenditure £46,464.

Revenue.

2. No change of any importance has been made in taxation during the period under review, but a certain amount of revenue has been devoted to furthering the interests of the British Cotton Growing Association, and the Customs Tariff Ordinance was remodelled in August, in view of the pending amalgamation of the Colony with the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria.

The spirit duty has remained at 3*s.* per gallon as fixed in 1900, and the *ad valorem* duty on ordinary goods at 10 per cent. as fixed in March, 1901. The several heads of revenue for the year under review compare with those of the two previous years (the only years with which comparison is possible by reason of the increased duties and the opening of the railway) as follows:—

Head of Revenue.	1901–2.	1902–3.	1903–4.
	£	£	£
Customs	233,049	287,510	257,183
Harbour and Light Dues ...	789	1,041	993
Licenses and Internal Revenue ...	7,199	8,740	8,575
Fees of Court or Office	4,862	10,171	6,209
Postal Revenue	1,991	2,356	3,178
Rent	448	582	483
Interest on Investments	2,198	2,236	2,326
Land Sales	209	222	2,880
Miscellaneous	6,379	1,141	1,796
Total	257,124	313,999	283,623
Railway Receipts	17,898	45,961	51,072
Grand Total	275,022	359,960	334,695

3. It will be seen that the ordinary revenue, while showing an increase of more than £26,000 upon the figures of 1901-2, shows an even larger decrease, namely, £30,000 upon the figures of the last financial year.

This, though at first sight unsatisfactory, presents one redeeming feature in that almost the whole of this decrease, viz., £22,000, is due to a falling off in the revenue derived from spirits.

The following table shows the actual revenue derived from this trade during the past three years—the period which has elapsed since the duty was fixed at 3*s.* per proof gallon:—

Year.	Revenue from Spirits.	
	Actual.	Per cent. of whole Revenue excluding Railway.
	£	
1901–2	152,723	65·53
1902–3	182,690	58·18
1903–4	160,640	56·63

This shows a remarkable decrease in consumption and a still more remarkable decrease in the proportion of revenue derived from spirits, and it is a cause for considerable satisfaction that, while the revenue of the year under review excluding railway receipts exceeded that of 1901-2 by £26,000, only £8,000 of this excess was due to spirits, and the percentage of receipts from this source fell by nearly 9. It was pointed out last year that the amount received for spirit duty had for the last 11 years averaged 69·79 per cent. of the total ordinary revenue —practically the exact proportion realized in 1900-01.

Since that date the proportion has sunk by no less than 13 per cent.

Whatever may be the arguments for or against a fiscal system which depends largely on the liquor traffic, it is clear that drink produces an amount of revenue in this Colony which cannot be surrendered without a complete dislocation of its finances, that, judged by European standards, the consumption of spirits per head of the population is very small, that the traffic is not an expanding one, and that any additional revenue which may be derived therefrom in the future will probably be the result of an increase in duty rather than in consumption. Apart from the revenue which it produces, and without which no public improvements could be undertaken, the Colonial Government has no interest in the maintenance of this trade, and would gladly see another source of revenue

substituted therefor, or, were it practical, raise the duty sufficiently to secure the necessary revenue concurrently with a diminution of the quantity of liquor imported.

4. The duty received on tobacco shows an increase of about 47 per cent. upon the figures of last year, and the relative proportion of this item to the total ordinary revenue has risen from 4·27 per cent. to 6·9 per cent.

5. There is also a satisfactory increase in the amount received from salt. Frequent representations have been made to the Government with a view to the abolition of this duty, on the ground that it is a necessary article of consumption, but it has not been shown that any hardship is caused by the small tax, and in the present state of the Colonial finances it is not considered advisable to surrender the revenue realized.

6. There is a decrease of over £10,000 in the receipts from cotton goods, due probably to the general depression in trade and to the abnormal condition of the Lancashire cotton market. The duty received amounted to 12·3 per cent. of the total ordinary revenue as against 14·61 per cent. for the preceding year.

Expenditure.

7. The charge on account of the public debt of the Colony amounted to £53,214 as against £51,368 for last year.

The liabilities of the Colony, incurred solely on account of the railway and the bridges connected with it, have now been consolidated into one loan of £2,000,000, which will also provide for the extension of the railway to Oshogbo.

The total capital expenditure up to 31st March, 1904, was £1,288,181, of which £145,327 had been advanced from the surplus funds of the Colony, and £350,354 had been found by the Crown Agents, the balance of £792,500 being lent from the Imperial Treasury under the Colonial Loans Act.

The working of the railway entailed an expenditure of £46,464, and the receipts amounted to £51,072, showing a credit balance on the year's working of £4,608.

The railway has now been almost brought up to standard, and has been maintained during the year in a reasonable state of efficiency. Very great improvement has been effected in the punctuality of the trains, and complaints from the traders and the general public have not been numerous.

8. The expenditure on the Lagos Battalion of the West African Frontier Force is still very high, amounting to no less than £29,033 for a force consisting of three companies.

It is hoped that the proposed amalagamation of the Colony with Southern Nigeria will enable this expenditure to be reduced.

The expenditure on the Medical Department has remained practically unchanged.

The work of swamp reclamation has proceeded rapidly, and a sum of little less than £10,000 has been expended on this most beneficial work, which has added so much to the salubrity and the amenities of the town.

A sum of over £2,000 has been expended on the extension of the sea wall, and it is hoped that this work will be completed within a very few years.

The most casual observer cannot fail to be struck by the vast improvement which it has effected.

9. The total extraordinary expenditure on Public Works amounted to a little over £30,000, double the sum expended in 1902-3, and included the commencement of the fine Supreme Court building recently completed. This most necessary work had been held in abeyance for a considerable time to the great inconvenience both of those who administer and those who seek the assistance of the law, and its provision has afforded much desired relief.

The following table gives a comparison of the items of the annual expenditure with those of the last two years:—

Class of Expenditure.	1901-02.	1902-03.	1903-04.
	£	£	£
Public Works—			
Extraordinary	14,631	15,464	30,843
Department	12,340	10,774	12,577
Recurrent	9,332	8,583	16,511
Total Works... ...	36,303	34,821	59,931
Medical	14,057	15,594	15,611
Lagos Battalion W.A.F.F. ...	23,308	21,455	29,033
Police	14,507	15,301	15,497
Judicial	7,606	8,316	8,413
Public Debt Charges	50,310	51,368	53,214
Other expenditure	67,764	73,681	74,923
Total excluding railway	213,855	220,536	256,622
Railway—open line	21,640	33,795	46,464
Grand Total	235,495	254,331	303,086

The balance sheet of the Colony shows an excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st March, 1904, of £216,677, as compared with £185,066 in 1903 and £79,438 in 1902—a most satisfactory state of affairs.

TRADE.

10. The trade of the Colony, so far at all events as volume goes, may be said to be in a satisfactory condition, there being an increase—taking commercial imports and exports together—of £140,000, say, 8 per cent., over the previous year; the figures being:—

1904	... ...	£1,878,893
1903	... ...	£1,738,562

During the year the imports were practically stationary, being only £2,700 in excess of 1903, and an increased output of the produce of the Colony is consequently responsible for the above growth in the total business. Had it not, however, been for the crisis in the cotton trade in the first half of 1904, resulting in practically prohibitive prices for the Colony's chief import (woven goods), the inward business would also undoubtedly have shown a substantial increase on the former year.

Detailed comparative returns will be found appended hereto, and as a searching analysis of the main features of the trade was made in the 1903 Report, it is proposed not to cover the same ground again in the present Blue Book, but to touch only upon the more striking fluctuations of the past year.

EXPORTS.

11. *Palm Oil and Kernels.*—The growth of trade in the year under review is to be mainly attributed to an expansion in the exports of palm kernels, the value of which was £113,000 more than in 1903. In connection with this large increase it must, however, be remembered that prices in Europe ruled high during the year, and that about half the increase in total value may be attributed to that factor. Still, the tonnage, which is the true criterion, was 5,720 tons in excess of the previous year, this being equal to 9 per cent.

It is noteworthy that this increase in the volume was almost identical with the growth in kernel traffic on the railway for the same period, viz., calendar year 1904, there having been an expansion of rail kernel freights to the extent of 5,450 tons during that period.

The palm oil exports are so remarkably near those of the previous year that it is worth while noting the gallonage and values, which were:—

1904	... 3,196,442	gallons	... £219,114
1903	... 3,174,060	,,	... £218,247

a difference in bulk of under 1 per cent. between the two years.

Taking the two sets of figures together (oil and kernels) we find ample corroboration, if that were needed, of the fact that the railway is bringing down kernels, from which formerly only the oily husk had been utilized and which were otherwise unworked owing to want of cheap transport. At and beyond the present rail head, Ibadan, the local demand for palm oil as a foodstuff and in a minor degree as an illuminant, practically absorbs the supply, but that is not the case with kernels, for which the purely local market is almost nil. Hence we now see large quantities of kernels brought down by rail from Ibadan, but little or no oil.

With regard to the future of this branch of trade—the present mainstay of the Colony—there is every reason to believe that when the railway extension, now in hand, is completed, there will be a very large increase from the areas beyond Ibadan, as the country through which the line will pass is reported to be as rich as that south of Abeokuta.

Stress was laid in the last Report upon the effect which scanty or full rains have upon the succeeding year's palm crop, and that undoubtedly is an important factor which should not be lost sight of.

12. Turning from the staple products to others, which it is hoped may in future have an important bearing upon the Colony's prosperity, it is to be noted that, in addition to the growth in kernel exports during the year, there were increases in the following, the total value of which increase (about £34,000) was, however, almost counterbalanced by a falling away in mahogany.

Maize	... ...	630	per cent. increase.
Cocoa	... ...	107	,, ,,
Cotton	... ...	89	,, ,,
Rubber	... ...	47	,, ,,

13. *Maize.*—This comparatively new export was taken up by farmers and merchants with considerable spirit during the year, as is denoted by the fact that 4,600 tons were shipped against only about 600 tons in 1903, and 40 tons in 1902. Given fair steamship rates there would appear to be great possibilities in this business, but at present the enthusiasm of the merchants has been cooled by fluctuating freights and uncertainty in that respect as to the future. It has been pointed out to the steamship owners, that exports such as this, which have to compete with similar products coming forward from other parts of the world, should have the ocean freights on a parity with the competing article, and it is hoped that Messrs. Elder, Dempster & Co. will recognise the pertinence of this

suggestion and give the merchants some guarantee on the lines indicated. As is known, corn is a very cheap article—less than half the value of palm kernels—and naturally only reasonably low freights will make the business a feasible one in this part of the world.

14. *Cocoa.*—The increase here is very satisfactory indeed, but it should not be taken as indicating that Lagos, so rich in indigenous palm products, will make such rapid and substantial progress in this industry as has been accomplished on the Gold Coast. Every encouragement is being given to planters, and the recently formed Agricultural Union, which has branch societies at Abeokuta, Ibadan, and Oyo, is doing good work. The Government realises how desirable it is, looking to the future, that Lagos should not be so entirely dependent upon the palm tree, and not only with regard to cocoa but other products as well is it hoped that our export trade may be rendered less narrow than at present.

15. *Cotton.*—The satisfaction one feels with regard to the increase in cotton exports is qualified to some extent by the knowledge that a large proportion of the export has been purchased at abnormal rates which practically carry a "bounty," viz., the penny per pound for seed cotton paid at Abeokuta and Ibadan and other places by the British Cotton Growing Association with a view to establishing the industry. It is impossible to state definitely, but, so far as can be judged, when the purchase price of seed cotton drops to one half-penny or three-farthings per pound in certain districts in the near hinterland, where attention can be given to other products, it is doubtful whether the people there will go on planting. In this connection, it is most desirable that the British Cotton Growing Association should at the *end* of one season and not at the beginning of another give notice of their intention to discontinue their purchase at the rate named, and that to such notice should be given the utmost publicity, otherwise farmers will be planting upon the assumption that their crops will realise the same value as in the previous season.

There is undoubtedly a large area suitable for cotton growing beyond the Lagos palm belt, where the people have at present no staple occupation, and any extension in that direction will have the warmest support of this Government, which feels that there, and there only, in this Colony and Protectorate, can be found the field in which these operations will be permanently successful.

16. *Rubber.*—This business, which a decade ago contributed well over a quarter of a million sterling per annum to the Colony's export trade, is in rather a curious position. The tapping of the few trees which survived the onslaught of the collectors during the rubber fever in 1895-8 was prohibited in 1899, and it is thought by some qualified to judge that the old trees have had a sufficiently long rest and the young ones time

to mature, and that the restrictions might now be removed. The matter is under consideration, and it is possible that during the ensuing year the industry may to some extent be revived, but it is not reasonable to suppose that it will ever again approximate the trade of the years quoted, owing to the then wanton destruction of trees. When tapping is again legalised, it is hoped that by the means of licenses and other methods a better check will be kept upon overbleeding, but, as will be realised, it is impossible to keep a proper watch upon the whole of an African forest. It will be noted that, notwithstanding the prohibition, the rubber exports from Lagos were in 1903 £15,583 and in 1904 £22,961, which indicate how difficult it is to supervise matters at the source of supply. It is, however, thought that a proportion of these exports are really made up of Southern Nigerian rubber, brought through by the creeks and shipped viâ Lagos, but no returns are available by which such proportion can be ascertained.

Should it be found necessary again to legislate to prevent the destruction of the trees, there is only one way in which the desired result can be attained, and that is by the total prohibition of export from Lagos and Southern Nigeria. Smuggling to some extent would doubtless be carried on between the western part of Lagos and Dahomey, and between the Calabar Divisions of Southern Nigeria and the Cameroons, but by far the greater part of the Colony and Protectorate would be effectively safeguarded.

17. *Mahogany.*—With reference to the heavy falling away in this business, viz., from £56,167 in 1903 to £25,851 in 1904, it is believed that the true explanation is that the large trees near the river banks have been cut down, and the cost of transporting big timber from a considerable distance inland is not remunerative at present prices, coupled with the fact that there is an indifferent market at home for small logs. With better prices ruling in Europe we should doubtless see a revival, but, unless values rule abnormally high, it is out of question to expect anything like the business of 1903.

Destination of Exports.

18. Owing chiefly to the increase in kernels, and to the fact that by far the best market for that produce is on the Continent, the percentage of the Colony's export handled by Great Britain has fallen away slightly from 1903—the figures being:—

Produce of Lagos only.	1903.	1904.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
To United Kingdom ...	30¾	29
„ Germany	67	68
„ other countries ...	2¼	3

Against the increase in total exports to Germany it is, however, to be noted that that country has lost ground in the oil and rubber businesses during the year; the exports thereto being as under:—

——	1903.	1904.
	Per cent. of total.	Per cent. of total.
Oil	37	32½
Rubber	7	5

The increased export to "other countries" is mainly due to the growth of the inter-colonial trade, which business up to the present has been classified under that head.

Imports.

19. Whilst exports of produce distinctly mean actual production and consequent purchasing power of the people, the true consumption of goods in a given year is not necessarily represented by the imports as shown by Customs statistics. Heavy or light stocks held by the merchants here at the beginning or end of a year may make the comparison with former periods misleading; hence in this part of the report it is proposed to deal more particularly with the relative benefit which our manufacturers and shippers at home have secured from our trade during the year under notice, as compared with those in foreign countries. Imports into Lagos mean, of course, actual business to the manufacturers and shippers, though not always to the Lagos merchant.

Taking the total inward trade (commercial imports only) the following apportionment is seen:—

Imports.	1903.	1904.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
From United Kingdom and British Colonies and Protectorates.	78½	76¾
From Germany	18¼	18¼
„ Holland	1¼	2
„ Other Countries	2	3

20. *Spirits.*—Before going into separate lines of trade, it should here be noted that the enhanced values of trade spirits during the year have had a material bearing upon the above percentages as applied to United Kingdom, Germany, and Holland.

In that connection it will be seen from the tables that, although the year's imports of trade spirits showed a growth in value of £6,400 (equal to 10 per cent.), there was actually a reduction in the bulk brought forward to the extent of 16,000 gallons, say, 1½ per cent. under 1903. Apart from Germany's increase in the value of trade spirits imports—a business in which the United Kingdom does not compete—that country has lost about £6,000 of general trade, as compared with the previous year. Unfortunately, however, this is more than counterbalanced by the fact that Holland and other foreign countries have, apart from spirits, gained £11,000 more of our business than they had in 1903.

21. *Cotton Goods,* which represented 45 per cent. of our total import in 1904, suffered to a very marked extent from the effects of the crisis in the American cotton market during the first half of the year, so much so that the total imports in a progressive branch of our business fell away to the extent of close on £15,000.

It will be remembered that raw cotton was run up to double its normal value in January, 1904, and the market generally was disorganised for months. The high prices of raw material were necessarily reflected in those asked by manufacturers, with the result that the values of goods for this market rose to such a point that it was practically impossible to get the natives to respond to the advance, and consequently the cotton trade of 1904 will be remembered here as one of the worst for many years.

In looking into the figures there is, however, one satisfactory feature with regard to cotton goods to be noted, namely, that our British manufacturers have still further strengthened their position—the imports of 1904 showing that only 1½ per cent. of this trade is now of foreign origin. It may in this connection be remarked that the imports of cotton goods from Germany fell from £8,338 in 1903 to £4,624 in 1904.

22. In the following minor imports the British merchants at home have strengthened their position during the year.

Matches.—The import of British-made matches in 1903, as shown by the Customs statistics, was 12½ per cent. only. This year one-half of those received have come from the United Kingdom. These figures give an exaggerated idea of increased local trade, probably due to unevenness of stocks of British matches held in Lagos in December, 1902, 1903, or 1904. The position of home-made matches in this market, is, however, now very strong.

Rice.—In 1903, 60 per cent. of the rice imports came from the United Kingdom, which now secures 80 per cent. of the trade, Germany having lost the ground we have gained, and her exports to Lagos having dropped in value from £3,077 in 1903 to £1,316 in 1904.

Silk Goods.—This year the United Kingdom have handled 94 per cent. of the trade, as compared with 90 per cent. in the previous period.

Germany again suffers, her business falling from £801 in 1903 to £428 in 1904.

Building Materials.—In 1903, 37 per cent. of the trade went to foreign countries; this year the United Kingdom secured 89 per cent. of the whole.

Cement.—Only 20 per cent. of the total imports came from the United Kingdom in 1903, but this year 40 per cent.

Bags.—The United Kingdom benefits more by increased imports than foreign countries, the percentages of their shipments being: 1903, 65 per cent.; 1904, 72 per cent.

Paints.—Only a small business is done here, but such as it is the position of the mother country has been materially strengthened. In 1903 she did 55 per cent. of the trade; this year 94 per cent. Germany bears the loss.

Firearms (*Trade Guns*).—With an increased trade the United Kingdom has slightly improved its position. In 1903 it did 43 per cent. of the whole, this year 46 per cent.

Salt.—Imports from the United Kingdom, which represented 69 per cent. of the whole in 1903, have now risen to 86 per cent., Germany falling away from 31 per cent. to 14 per cent.

A perusal of the above marks of progress affords satisfaction, but there is, unfortunately, another side to the picture, and the following notes provide food for reflection on the part of our merchants and manufacturers at home:—

Earthenware.—In 1903, 87 per cent. of the imports came from the United Kingdom, this year only 65 per cent. Receipts from Germany are practically the same, but Holland has come into the market, in which before she had no interest, and has done 11½ per cent. of the whole trade of 1904. "Other countries" now receive a similar share to Holland, as against practically nothing in 1903.

Haberdashery.—The falling away in total imports of £5,600 in this branch of business has been practically all borne by the United Kingdom, the imports from Germany being practically equal in value to those of last year. British imports ran out 92 per cent. in 1903, and 90 per cent. in 1904; Germany's were 6 per cent. in 1903, 8 per cent. in 1904.

Tobacco Pipes.—In 1903 practically the whole of this trade was in British hands, imports from the United Kingdom equalling 97½ per cent. of the whole. This year Germany and "other

countries" take 37 per cent. of the trade. It is to be noted that "other countries," from which no imports came in 1903, now contribute 18½ per cent. of our receipts.

Wearing Apparel.—93½ per cent. of the trade came from the United Kingdom in 1903, this year only 81 per cent. Germany's position is improved from 5½ per cent. to 13 per cent., and "other countries" from 1 per cent. to 6 per cent.

Tobacco.—Here again the loss of total trade has practically fallen to the United Kingdom; our percentage in 1903 being 82 per cent., and this year 80 per cent. Germany's share rises from 9¾ per cent. in 1903 to 11½ per cent. this year.

Shooks (Empty Casks).—Holland has forged ahead at the expense of the United Kingdom; Germany's share being only a fraction more than last year. The British figures have dropped from 60 per cent. in 1903 to 30 per cent. in 1904. This is due to Holland sending us £4,193 value of shooks in 1904, as compared with only £336 in the previous year. Incidentally it may be remarked that Holland also shipped £4,500 more shooks to Southern Nigeria in 1904 than in 1903. It would appear that our British coopers are losing very considerable ground to the Dutch in this business.

Aerated Waters.—Great Britain loses ground to Germany. Imports from United Kingdom in 1903 equalled 61 per cent. of the whole, this year only 51½ per cent.

Ale and Stout.—Similarly to above, our position is weaker; the United Kingdom imports in 1903 being 40½ per cent., this year only 25 per cent. Germany gains what we have lost.

Gunpowder.—British makers, who did 7 per cent. of the total in 1903, shipped nothing in 1904, the whole trade now going to Germany. It is singular that in the adjoining Protectorate of Southern Nigeria British gunpowder represents 94 per cent. of the total import, Germany sending only £752 value out of a total import of £12,220.

Sugar.—Mention is made of this commodity, not because there is any very noticeable difference in the relative business, but because it is felt that we ought to do considerably more of the trade. British sugar stands the climate better than the German beet, yet British imports represent only 44 per cent. of the whole—a slight improvement upon last year (41½ per cent. 1903), but quite disproportionate to what it should be possible to do. It may be here remarked that in the sister Protectorate of Southern Nigeria 98 per cent. of the sugar trade falls to the share of the United Kingdom, Germany sending only £114 out of a total import of £6,000.

"*Other Articles.*"—Both the United Kingdom and Germany fall away—the former from 67 per cent. to 63 per cent., and the latter from 30½ per cent. to 23 per cent. The bulk of the

difference has gone to "other countries," which did 13½ per cent. of the whole in unclassified goods in 1904, as against 1 per cent. only in the previous year. This increase is probably due in some manner to the fact that we now have an important French house doing business in Lagos.

In making the foregoing comparisons the basis has necessarily been the Customs returns giving port of shipment, which, it will be understood, does not always mean source of origin.

Tobacco, for example, which is imported here from the United Kingdom, is, of course, really produced in the States, just as the bulk of the gunny bags come from Calcutta to Lagos viâ Liverpool and appear as an import from the United Kingdom. But if the port of shipment, as appearing in our returns, does not in all cases imply increased trade for our British manufacturers, it does so, at all events, for our merchants and shipowners at home, and the figures are interesting from that standpoint.

Prospects.

23. In reviewing the general outlook, so far at all events as the probable volume of trade and consequent revenue are concerned, there is nothing disquieting to be noted, excepting that we are over dependent upon two single lines in our export list, which are the produce of the same tree—the palm—which in 1904 gave us in oil and kernels together 88 per cent. of the whole of the produce shipped from here.

Every effort should, and is, being made to broaden the trade of the Colony. It is recognised that progressive agriculture devoted to other products than the palm trees will help very considerably in this direction, and much is now being done in the way of cotton, maize, cocoa, &c., and in the planting up of kola trees, for the produce of which (kola nuts) there is alone a purely local demand to the extent of £40,000 per annum.

We have also an indigenous product which at present is almost neglected, but from which it is hoped that substantial benefit may be derived in the future, viz., the shea tree. This is not as a rule found within the palm belt, but immediately beyond there are great areas of country inside the Lagos boundary where it flourishes, and in which the natives have at present but little regular occupation. At the time of writing this report the question of finding some free and remunerative outlet for the produce of this tree is being pushed forward by the Government, which feels that there are good grounds for efforts in that direction, as shea nuts to the value of about £19,000 were exported from the Niger during 1904. Up to the present the trees in Lagos have been only slightly

worked in order that what is known as shea butter might be procured, there being a fair local demand for this commodity, but it is hoped that the shipment of nuts may give better results than have so far attended experimental shipments of the native manufactured "butter." The attention of merchants at home who are interested in the Lagos trade is particularly directed towards this product, and their co-operation invited.

Apart, however, from the produce of the Lagos Colony and Protectorate, there is open to us a much greater field for the outlet of our goods, which at present is contributing but little to either revenue or the business of home manufacturers or local merchants. This field is to be found in the vast tracts of country lying beyond the Niger. If there is one thing more than another deserving the special attention of the merchants *now*, it is the cultivation of that particular business which at present is but in its infancy, but which, if properly encouraged and catered for, offers enormous possibilities. Although the dealings in bulky articles of trade (salt, &c.) may be transacted on the Upper Nile, there is no doubt whatever that the attractions of Lagos, with its numerous stores carrying a great assortment of all classes of goods sold at reasonable rates, and having a free market for cattle and miscellaneous produce, are such as to capture the more valuable portion of the Soudan business, viz., that done in cotton and sundry goods.

Granted reasonable development of the new products, which are being pushed forward within the Colony, and the securing of the trade from the Hausa States and beyond, there will be nothing, so far as one can judge, to cause uneasiness with regard to the continued prosperity of Lagos, but until our trade can be thus materially widened, we shall always be liable to marked fluctuations due to causes over which neither Government nor merchants have any control, and we must be prepared to face lean years occasionally as well as to enjoy full ones.

SHIPPING.

24. The shipping statistics present marked features of difference from those of the preceding year; the tonnage entered amounting to 756,344 as against 628,413, and the tonnage cleared to 760,799 as against 625,849.

It is satisfactory to note that the increase of British tonnage is proportionately very much larger than that of foreign (*i.e.*, German) competitors.

AGRICULTURE.

25. No great developments have taken place during the year under review. The energetic efforts of the British Cotton Growing Association have met with a certain amount of success, though by no means commensurate with the large expenditure incurred.

It is not to be expected that the cultivation of cotton will ever take the place of the industry connected with products of the palm tree, but there remains outside the palm belt a considerable tract of country well suited for cotton growing, and it is possible that by careful nursing the industry may become permanently established in the Colony.

Large quantities of cotton are already grown for home consumption, but increased transport facilities alone can make export remunerative.

New roads suitable for wheeled traffic are being constructed, and every inducement is offered to the natives to plant, but it is uncertain what will be their attitude when the present fictitious price of 1*d.* per pound for seed cotton is withdrawn, as it must be in the near future.

Large numbers of kola trees have been planted during recent years, some of which must be approaching maturity, and it is only natural to expect that a considerable and very profitable trade will result. At present the people are almost entirely dependent on imports for this article of food, which is considered in many places to be practically a necessary.

It is hoped that the recently formed Agricultural Union with its branch societies at Abeokuta, Ibadan, and Oyo will do much to make known and popularize improved implements and methods of cultivation besides disseminating useful information.

There is no doubt that there is at present a marked disposition on the part of the people to return to the land, and the attractions of trading are becoming less alluring in consequence of the falling off in profits, due to keen competition.

It is proposed at an early date to introduce elementary courses of instruction in botany and agriculture in the schools of the Colony.

LEGISLATION.

26. Changes were made in the Customs Tariff Ordinance in view of the proposed amalgamation of the Colony with the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria, and various minor amendments were made in the ordinary laws.

Provision has been made for the inspection of palm kernels to prevent adulteration and to ensure that the produce is brought to the market in a proper condition.

Provision has also been made for the exercise by the Supreme Court of the Colony of the newly acquired jurisdiction in the Protectorate.

Powers have been given to raise a loan of £2,000,000 to consolidate existing liabilities and to provide for the extension of the railway to Oshogbo.

JUDICIAL MATTERS.

27. The extension of the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, to which reference was made in last year's report, has been carried into effect throughout the Egba and Ibadan territories, and assizes are now held quarterly at Abeokuta and Ibadan.

The change has been accepted by the people without demur, and though the business at the assizes has not been large, there is reason to anticipate a large increase concurrent with the growth of trade and the opening up of the country. It will necessitate the appointment of another judge at no distant date.

The criminal statistics do not call for any special comments, the only remarkable fact being the comparative rarity of really serious crime. The number of offences shows a small decrease all round.

EDUCATION.

28. Education is practically entirely in the hands of the several Missionary Societies aided by Government grants, amounting in the aggregate to a sum of £2,000.

The numbers in attendance show a satisfactory increase, amounting to 4,690 as compared with 4,351 for the preceding year. The great difficulty experienced is the want of adequately trained teachers, a perennial complaint which shows no sign of abatement. The societies are not able to offer salaries sufficient to attract young men from other and more lucrative

pursuits. It is well worthy of the consideration of the Government how far it is possible to remedy this by increased grants or otherwise, as it does not seem likely that the resources of the societies will ever be sufficient to meet the demands which are made upon them, more especially having regard to the continual extension of the sphere of their operations.

POST OFFICE AND TELEGRAPHS.

29. The volume of business transacted in the Post Office shows a considerable increase in every department.

The total number of letters, post-cards, book packets and parcels which passed through the office amounted to 476,983 as compared with 349,368 for the preceding year, while the money order transactions involved a sum of over £25,000 as compared with less than £22,000 for 1903.

The net revenue derived from the Post Office was £2,327 as compared with £917 for 1903. Provision is being made for a considerable increase of postal facilities in the interior.

The telegraph system has been extended by the completion of the Lagos-Forcados Line, the working of which has, however, been attended with great difficulties by reason of the swampy nature of the route traversed.

A new line has been commenced from Ibadan to the Southern Nigeria frontier viâ Oshogbo, Ilesha, and Akure, and it is hoped that when this is linked up with the Southern Nigeria system it will be possible to abandon the beach line to Forcados, the maintenance of which must always be exceedingly expensive and liable to interruption.

POLICE.

30. The police establishment has been increased from 448 to 492, and a further increase will shortly be necessary owing to the extra duties devolving on the force by reason of the conversion of the constabulary into a purely military force. The force has been maintained in a high state of efficiency, which is all the more remarkable considering the small number of European officers.

HOSPITALS AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

31. The Lagos hospital returns do not call for any special comment, though it is to be observed that the number of cases of malarial fever shows a considerable increase, and the percentage of deaths is much higher. The number of cases treated at the Contagious Diseases Hospital (chiefly small-pox) shows a remarkable decrease, due to the spread of vaccination which is now practically universal in the Lagos sanitary district, and is making an impression in the interior, especially in the large centres of population, where the prejudice against it is slowly dying out.

The vital statistics for the town of Lagos and Ebute Metta show that the year was not a healthy one as compared with 1903, the death-rate at Ebute Metta having advanced from 76 to 94 per 1,000. It is extremely doubtful, however, whether any value attaches to these statistics, as they are based on the population returns of 1901, and Ebute Metta is a rapidly-growing town.

The Lagos increase is given at 2 per 1,000, and this again must not be considered absolutely trustworthy for the same reason.

It must be remembered also that there is a large fluctuating population, consisting of traders from the interior, whose numbers are difficult to estimate, though they must have a considerable effect upon the public health statistics.

GENERAL.

32. The general condition of the Colony has been perfectly satisfactory.

As has often been stated the native population is and remains loyal and law-abiding. Jealous as they are of their native customs and their traditional rights, only on rare occasions has there been any disposition to do other than accept willingly and without cavil the advice of the Political Officers in charge of the various districts.

The Ilesha province is unfortunate in its rulers, and there is a certain amount of friction there, which, however, has never assumed really serious proportions and which is not likely to recur.

The Egba people have not abused the large amount of liberty which has been left to them in the conduct of their affairs.

The visit of the Alake to England and His Majesty's gracious reception of the Chief formed an interesting episode in the history of the Protectorate and created a profound

impression both on the Alake himself and on his people. He has amply justified the good opinion which Sir Wm. MacGregor formed of him.

It is not to be supposed that the local Governments are entirely free from abuses, but on the whole they work well.

33. Sir William MacGregor left the Colony early in January after holding the office of Governor for nearly five years. That five years has witnessed a most remarkable development in the resources of the territory and in the general condition and prosperity of the people.

The town of Lagos has been improved almost out of recognition, the revenue has been nearly doubled, the Protectorate has been pacified and organised, many public works of great utility have been carried through, others have been commenced and others again have been brought within the range of practical politics.

A real interest has been awakened in the sanitary condition of the town, and there is no reason to doubt that the near future will see a vast improvement in the conditions of life and in the health of the community.

E. A. SPEED,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

31st August, 1905.

APPENDIX A.

STATEMENT showing the MONTHLY RECEIPTS from IMPORT DUTIES in the COLONY of LAGOS for the years 1902, 1903, and 1904.

Months.	1902.			1903.			1904.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
January	19,675	15	8	21,918	18	1	21,268	15	8
February	17,256	13	4	21,386	19	2	20,053	4	0
March	23,668	15	3	19,257	1	11	17,633	0	5
April	19,497	10	7	20,943	19	7	16,494	18	10
May	24,429	10	2	22,702	19	3	19,885	19	10
June	20,129	17	9	18,229	18	3	21,954	10	8
July	25,556	10	1	27,894	18	0	21,534	11	7
August	28,052	4	1	25,536	18	10	23,891	3	0
September	29,328	6	3	19,283	5	6	23,067	5	3
October	27,673	11	4	24,952	17	6	23,552	17	2
November	25,594	17	9	19,512	12	10	23,332	10	5
December	24,684	5	5	19,168	14	8	21,191	15	3
Total ...	285,552	17	8	260,789	3	7	253,860	12	1

APPENDIX B.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT showing the CUSTOMS DUTIES received under principal headings of IMPORTS in the COLONY of LAGOS for the years 1902, 1903, and 1904, and differences of 1904 compared with 1903.

Articles.	Duties received.			Receipts for 1904 compared with 1903.	
	1902.	1903.	1904.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£
Spirits	187,198	159,817	157,760	—	2,057
Tobacco (unmanufactured).	17,504	19,495	17,487	—	2,008
Salt	6,097	5,902	6,300	398	—
Ale, Beer, &c.... ...	533	459	569	110	—
Firearms	983	1,336	1,409	73	—
Gunpowder	5,818	6,085	5,993	—	92
Kola Nuts	1,968	2,167	2,299	132	—
Kerosene Oil	2,614	4,417	4,058	—	359
Cotton Goods... ...	43,469	38,195	36,662	—	1,533
Beads	1,856	1,915	2,128	213	—
Earthenware	604	737	754	17	—
Hardware	1,316	1,485	1,350	—	135

APPENDIX C.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT showing the TOTAL AMOUNT received by the COLLECTOR of CUSTOMS at LAGOS under the HEADS of receipt stated for the years 1902, 1903, and 1904, and differences of 1904 compared with 1903.

Heads of Receipts.	Amounts received.			Receipts for 1904 compared with 1903.	
	1902	1903.	1904.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£
Light Dues	912	1,005	1,542	537	—
Warehouse Rent ...	619	710	386	—	324
Storage on Gunpowder	131	105	147	42	—
Storage on Petroleum	450	322	490	168	—
Customs Fees	70	78	89	11	—
Medical Dues	—	—	—	—	—
Auctioneers' Licenses	66	132	108	—	24
Dog Licenses	45	41	72	31	—
Spirit Licenses ...	3,094	2,697	3,785	1,088	—
PetroleumStoreLicenses	7	9	10	1	—
Meat Market Licenses	87	131	101	—	30
Slaughter House Dues	354	408	319	—	89
Fish Market Licenses...	—	—	—	—	—
	5,835	5,638	7,049	—	—

APPENDIX D.

STATEMENT of the VALUES of IMPORTS into the COLONY of LAGOS for the years 1899 to 1904, showing COMMERCIAL, GOVERNMENT and SPECIE values separately.

Year.	Value Commercial.	Value Government.	Value Specie.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1899 ...	806,269 17 10	—	160,325 0 0	966,594 17 10
1900 ...	754,969 18 7	—	75,500 0 0	830,469 18 7
1901 ...	724,838 2 9	—	12,446 16 10	737,284 19 7
1902 ...	895,223 3 7	—	35,522 1 8	930,745 5 3
1903 ...	813,613 15 9	49,865 14 4	667 1 5	864,146 11 6
1904 ...	816,317 0 10	51,668 13 5	51,838 0 3	919,823 14 6

APPENDIX E.

STATEMENT showing the QUANTITIES AND VALUES of PRINCIPAL ARTICLES of IMPORTS into the COLONY of LAGOS during the years 1899 to 1904.

Articles.	1899.		1900.		1901.		1902.		1903.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£		£		£		£
Aerated Water .. Doz.	—	4,179	30,115	3,730	24,693	3,211	21,880	2,965	23,485	3,183	26,001	3,559
Ale and Porter .. „	7,354	1,894	9,333	2,456	8,571	2,170	12,997	3,006	12,241	2,738	15,168	3,307
Beads	—	19,453	—	15,264	—	13,600	—	18,559	—	19,141	—	21,277
Building Materials ..	—	18,060	—	21,983	—	20,291	—	11,458	—	9,035	—	14,266
Cotton Goods	—	305,438	—	330,898	—	323,944	—	434,172	—	381,937	—	366,495
Earthenware	—	5,567	—	5,983	—	3,806	—	6,014	—	7,370	—	7,538
Firearms .. .. No.	3,030	1,389	10,361	3,671	2,398	1,216	7,866	3,022	10,691	2,734	11,269	4,551
Gunpowder .. Lbs.	410,634	5,174	163,456	2,398	156,374	2,130	232,729	3,862	243,417	3,167	239,706	3,194
Gunny Bags	—	3,469	—	5,948	—	7,211	—	12,040	—	8,544	—	16,659
Haberdashery	—	20,082	—	16,532	—	14,942	—	18,163	—	18,275	—	12,687
Hardware	—	17,873	—	19,905	—	12,371	—	13,075	—	14,819	—	13,497
Kola Nuts .. .. Lbs.	1,573,040	26,784	1,387,048	26,453	1,793,189	33,895	1,967,738	34,060	2,166,707	38,696	2,298,750	40,752
Matches	—	9,846	—	4,090	—	5,325	—	5,618	—	4,472	—	7,516
Oil, Kerosene .. Galls.	—	10,376	314,373	10,371	304,117	10,112	313,641	8,838	529,298	11,958	486,941	10,626
Provisions	—	8,984	—	8,243	—	8,335	—	8,910	—	9,640	—	8,669
Rice	—	8,045	—	6,991	—	6,372	—	7,417	—	7,628	—	6,819
Salt .. .. .. Tons	5,837	7,119	4,828	5,982	6,089	8,669	5,655	6,934	5,808	7,883	6,177	8,970
Shooks, &c.	—	9,263	—	15,837	—	14,942	—	31,840	—	17,621	—	16,136
Silk Goods	—	14,621	—	12,886	—	6,058	—	11,038	—	8,290	—	7,043
Spirits—Brandy .. Galls.	420	241	305	215	216½	289	313	284	326	293	252	277
Geneva .. „	491,227	34,018	456,517	34,913	458,944½	38,054	632,423	51,542	515,545	43,420	499,362	43,042
Alcohol .. „	—	—	—	—	356,653½	12,325	393,166	12,767	326,499	10,628	224,888	10,392
Rum .. „	545,039	24,969	435,346	18,379	125,554	7,491	215,586	10,253	218,703	10,883	320,093	17,904
Whisky „	6,254	2,466	4,986	2,054	8,023	2,177	5,281	1,650	6,655	2,867	5,714	2,254
Soap	—	4,278	—	3,977	—	3,913	—	6,133	—	5,652	—	5,631
Tobacco .. .. Lbs.	946,684	19,964	887,992	17,878	865,334	17,786	1,045,875	21,040	1,167,472	24,423	1,046,157	19,747
Wines, Still .. Galls.	9,145	12,075	7,123	1,211	8,229	1,531	11,697	1,504	14,186	1,757	9,549	1,728
Woollen Goods	—	5,211	—	6,176	—	5,160	—	4,852	—	7,324	—	4,522
Wearing Apparel ..	—	4,147	—	4,808	—	4,003	—	4,095	—	4,968	—	6,529
Specie	—	160,325	—	75,500	—	12,447	—	35,522	—	667	—	51,838

APPENDIX F.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT showing the QUANTITIES and VALUES of PRINCIPAL ARTICLES of IMPORT into the Colony of LAGOS for the years 1903 and 1904, and differences 1904 compared with 1903, under the various headings.

Articles.	1903.		1904.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.
		£		£		£		£
Aerated Waters .. Doz.	23,485	3,183	26,001	3,559	2,516	376	—	—
Ale and Porter .. „	12,241	2,738	15,167	3,307	2,926	569	—	—
Beads	—	19,141	—	21,277	—	2,136	—	—
Building Materials ..	—	9,035	—	14,266	—	5,231	—	—
Cotton Goods	—	381,931	—	366,495	—	—	—	15,442
Earthenware	—	7,370	—	7,538	—	168	—	—
Firearms .. .. No.	10,691	2,734	11,269	4,551	578	1,817	—	—
Gunny Bags	—	8,544	—	16,659	—	8,115	—	—
Gunpowder .. Lbs.	243,417	3 167	239,706	3,194	—	27	3,711	—
Haberdashery	—	18,275	—	12,687	—	—	—	5,588
Hardware	—	14,819	—	13,497	—	—	—	1,322
Kola Nuts.. .. Lbs.	2,166,707	38,696	2,292,750	40,752	132,043	2,056	—	—
Matches	—	4,472	—	7,516	—	3,044	—	—
Oil, Kerosene ..Galls.	529,298	11,958	486,941	10,626	—	—	42,357	1,332
Provisions	—	9,640	—	8,669	—	—	—	971
Rice .. .. .. Cwt.	15,256	7,628	14,654	6,819	—	—	602	809
Salt .. .. .. Tons	5,808	7,883	6,177	8,970	369	1,087	—	—
Shooks, &c.	—	17,621	—	16,136	—	—	—	1,485
Silk Goods..	—	8,290	—	7,043	—	—	—	1,247
Spirits—Geneva ..Galls.	515,545	43,420	499,362	43,042	—	—	16,183	378
Rum .. „	218,703	10,883	320,093	17,904	101,390	7,021	—	—
Alcohol P.G.„	326,499	10,628	224,888	10,392	—	—	101,611	236
Soap..	—	5,652	—	5 631	—	—	—	21
Tobacco, Unmanu- Lbs. factured.	1,167,473	24,423	1,041,156	19,747	—	—	126,317	4,676
Wines, Still ..Galls.	14,186	1,757	9,549	1,728	—	—	4,637	29
Woollen Goods	—	7,324	—	4,522	—	—	—	2,802
Wearing Apparel ..	—	4,968	—	6,529	—	1,561	—	—
Specie	—	667	—	51,838	—	51,171	—	—

APPENDIX G.

STATEMENT showing the VALUES of FOREIGN GOODS, COLONIAL PRODUCE, and SPECIE EXPORTED, with yearly totals of EXPORTS, from the Colony of LAGOS for the years 1899 to 1904.

Year.	Value of Foreign Goods.	Value of Colonial Produce.	Specie.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1899	30,184	804,174	111,760	915,934
1900	25,617	727,680	157,431	885,111
1901	30,881	768,150	110,201	909,232
1902	39,384	1,220,300	117,565	1,337,865
1903	32,147	892,801	221,373	1,146,321
1904	43,522	1,019,054	148,144	1,210,720

APPENDIX H.

STATEMENT showing the QUANTITIES and VALUES of the PRINCIPAL ARTICLES of COLONIAL PRODUCE EXPORTED from the Colony of LAGOS during the years 1899 to 1904.

Articles.	1899.		1900.		1901.		1902.		1903.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£	Lbs	£	Lbs.	£
Cocoa ...	157,768	3,411	256,234	5,913	229,952	5,042	385,540	7,530	341,461	6,705	821,732	13,892
											Tons.	
Corn ...	—	164	—	194	—	320	—	161	—	2,215	4,669	16,115
											Lbs.	
Cotton ginned	13,659	254	24,080	453	7,600	154	12,359	150	276,737	7,065	862,912	12,330
Mahogany ...	—	34,738	—	58,374	—	12,216	—	33,293	—	56,167	—	25,851
	Tons.		Tons.		Tons.		Tons.		Tons.		Tons.	
Palm Kernels	49,501	412,817	48,514	403,614	57,176	510,918	75,416	821,404	63,568	567,612	69,288	680,441
	Galls.		Galls.		Galls.		Galls.		Galls.		Galls.	
Palm Oil ...	3,292,881	168,457	2,977,926	190,165	3,304,055	207,468	5,240,137	332,487	3,174,060	218,247	3,196,442	219,114
	Lbs.		Lbs.		Lbs.		Lbs.		Lbs.		Lbs.	
Rubber ...	1,993,525	160,315	596,332	48,239	194,280	14,749	151,440	9,272	131,311½	15,583	265,458	22,961

APPENDIX J.

STATEMENT showing the VALUE of GOODS INWARDS in Transit between LAGOS and PORTO NOVO for the years 1899 to 1904.

Year.	Value.			Transit Duty paid.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
1899 ...	5,797	12	11	174	5	0
1900 ...	3,268	5	8	199	17	8
1901 ...	6,841	8	6	203	6	2
1902 ...	11,200	14	5	434	12	10
1903 ...	4,437	17	9	246	1	4
1904 ...	7,974	8	10	329	2	0

APPENDIX K.

STATEMENT of the NATIONALITY, NUMBER, TONNAGE and CREWS of the STEAM VESSELS entered INWARDS and OUTWARDS in the COLONY of LAGOS for the years 1903 and 1904.

1903.

Nationality of Vessels.	Steam Vessels Entered.								
	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
British ...	284	423,922	14,152	44	9,672	1,397	328	433,594	15,549
German ...	196	193,724	8,702	4	420	81	200	194,144	8,783
French ...	1	675	20	—	—	—	1	675	20

Nationality of Vessels.	Steam Vessels Cleared.								
	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
British ...	306	426,815	14,806	22	6,242	776	328	433,057	15,582
German ...	118	279,811	5,919	81	12,306	2,830	199	192,117	8,749
French ...	1	675	20	—	—	—	1	675	20

APPENDIX K—*cont.*

1904.

Nationality of Vessels.	Steam Vessels Entered.								
	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
British ...	403	528,523	18,163	22	8,247	732	425	536,770	18,895
German ...	197	213,068	9,194	14	6,506	578	211	219,574	9,772

Nationality of Vessels.	Steam Vessels Cleared.								
	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
British ...	390	528,576	18,234	42	8,568	1,139	432	537,144	19,373
German ...	158	209,077	8,786	57	14,578	2,220	215	223,655	10,005

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No	Colony.	Year.
443	St. Lucia	1903
444	Basutoland	1903–1904
445	Leeward Islands	"
446	St. Vincent	"
447	Bermuda	1904
448	St. Helena	"
449	Falkland Islands	"
450	Weihaiwei	"
451	Hong Kong	"
452	Gambia	"
453	Gibraltar	"
454	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
455	British Honduras	"
456	Seychelles	"
457	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ...	"
458	Straits Settlements	"
459	Southern Nigeria	"
460	Sierra Leone	"
461	British Solomon Islands	1903–1905
462	Malta	1904–1905
463	Grenada	1904
464	St. Vincent	"
465	Gold Coast	"
466	Barbados	1904–1905
467	Uganda	"
468	Somaliland	"
469	Trinidad and Tobago	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.

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1905.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 260.

NIGER.

WEST AFRICAN FRONTIER FORCE.

REPORTS FOR 1897-8.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

June, 1899.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
229	Gambia	1897
230	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
231	Barbados	,,
232	Lagos	,,
233	St. Vincent	,,
234	Sierra Leone	,,
235	Falkland Islands	,,
236	Straits Settlements	,,
237	British New Guinea	1896–97
238	Bahamas	1897
239	St. Lucia	,,
240	St. Helena	,,
241	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
242	British Honduras	,,
243	Malta	,,
244	Fiji	,,
245	Hong Kong	,,
246	Leeward Islands	,,
247	Grenada	,,
248	Gibraltar	,,
249	Gold Coast	,,
250	Mauritius and Rodrigues	,,
251	British Solomon Islands	1897–98
252	Seychelles	1897
253	Labuan	,,
254	Ceylon	,,
255	Basutoland	1897–98
256	Newfoundland	1896–97
257	Cocos-Keeling and Christmas Islands ...	1898
258	British New Guinea	1897–98
259	Bermuda	1898

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast...	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.

No. 260.

NIGER.

WEST AFRICAN FRONTIER FORCE.

COLONEL F. D. LUGARD, C.B., D.S.O., to the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

63, Jermyn Street, S.W.,

13th March, 1899.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the report which, in accordance with your instructions, I desired Lieutenant-Colonel Pilcher to submit on the work done in raising the 1st Battalion of the West African Frontier Force. A similar report on the raising of the 2nd Battalion will shortly be submitted by Lieutenant-Colonel FitzGerald.

2. Lieutenant-Colonel Pilcher's decision to concentrate the recruits at Lokoja as soon as possible was entirely in accordance with the views I had expressed to him before he left London.

The site chosen by him for the Camp was, in my opinion, the best possible in the immediate vicinity of Lokoja. I do not entirely associate myself in the generalisations on the character of the African expressed in his report.

3. The Lapai Expedition commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Pilcher took the field at the moment when the crisis with the French was at its acutest stage. The assistance of the Frontier Force was claimed as an equivalent for the Royal Niger Constabulary serving in Borgu, and the representations made by Acting Agent-General Drew were of such a nature as left me no option but to add to the responsibilities of that anxious time by detailing the troops required. I was informed by him that any

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delay in so doing might produce a disaster of the gravest possible nature. The expedition was conducted to a successful issue by Colonel Pilcher, who brought to notice the valuable services done by Major Festing, Captain Wilkinson, and Lieutenant Molesworth.

4. I concur in the value of fatigue work as a part of the training of a native soldier, more especially in view of the saving in expense to the State.

5. The difficulty of recruiting Hausas has prevented the Battalion from reaching more than three-quarters (900) of its establishment (1,200), but the excellence of the training imparted by Colonel Pilcher and his officers is proved by the fact that already in so short a period a thoroughly serviceable force has been created—"fit to go anywhere and do anything."

6. The amount of work which devolved upon Colonel Pilcher and upon Captain Wilkinson, the Adjutant, and Lieutenant Molesworth, the Quartermaster, before the formation of the Transport and Accounts Departments, and of a separate Headquarters, was very great, and these officers worked indefatigably and unceasingly. Subsequently I appointed Captain Goldie-Taubman to the charge of the Station Staff Office at Lokoja, in addition to his regimental duties, and to the ability and untiring energy which he displayed the order and system which rapidly grew up was largely due. After his death he was succeeded in the discharge of these duties by Captain Marsh, concerning whose work I have received the most satisfactory reports from Colonel Willcocks and Colonel Pilcher. There was no better and more conscientious officer in the force than Captain Taubman; he never spared himself, and his death was a great grief to myself and to the whole force. I desire to endorse the terms of praise in which Colonel Pilcher has alluded to the work of Captain Blackader, Lieutenant Bryan, and other officers, and to add the expression of my own great regret for the sad and untimely death of so promising an officer as Lieutenant Keating. All ranks have worked loyally and well, in spite of constant sickness and great discomfort and exposure in mere grass houses during tropical rains (until the erection of the huts), and the greatest credit is due to Lieutenant-Colonel Pilcher and the officers and non-commissioned officers under him for the results achieved in the formation and training of the 1st Battalion.

7. As directed by you, I add a few remarks on the organisation of the other corps and departments of the West African Frontier Force, and the general work and results of the first year.

Artillery.—This branch of the service has been organised as a separate unit from the Infantry, under Major W. A. Robinson, R.A. It consists of three batteries; two of these (field batteries) are armed with four 7-pr. M.L. guns each, the present establishment being 1 captain, 2 subalterns, 6 British non-commissioned

officers, and 53 rank and file. The third, under Major Robinson, has six British non-commissioned officers and 49 rank and file, and is equipped with six ·75mm. B.L. guns. Major Robinson and his officers showed the utmost zeal and energy in the raising and training of their men, but were much delayed by the initial difficulty of obtaining suitable Hausa recruits and by the non-arrival of the guns till last autumn. I have to record with sorrow the death of Lieutenant Porcher, Sergeant-Majors Francis and Bell, and Corporal Sheeley. Captain Armitage did good work on the expedition under Major Festing to the Anambra Creek. Lieutenant Ker, R.A., did excellent service in the Niger Company's Expedition in the Ibo country (Illah), which was brought to notice by the Officer Commanding the Expedition. The casualties in that affair were heavy, and it was of an arduous nature. Good feeling and contentment under difficulties and hardships—they were among the last to be housed, and were for long disappointed at the non-arrival of guns and recruits—were especially noticeable in the Artillery, and much credit is due to Major Robinson. The services of Battery Sergeant-Major H. Webb, Battery Sergeant-Major J. Heffernan, and Battery Sergeant-Major T. Matthews, have been specially mentioned by Major Robinson.

Engineers.—A small company of Sappers, under Lieutenant R. L. McClintock, R.E., consisting of 5 British non-commissioned officers and 26 local natives—to which, later, were added 20 Madras Sappers and Miners—were placed in charge of the erection of 54 wooden houses, sent out from England during February and March last. About 40 West Coast artisans (carpenters and masons) were attached to this company to assist in the constructions. On February 23rd last 26 of the small three-roomed houses for officers had been completed, one officers' mess, two hospitals, three large officers' houses, 18 non-commissioned officers' houses, and 160 ft. of storehouses. The houses have been well and carefully erected. The delay in the erection has been great, for it has taken a year to put up the houses now erected, but the difficulties to be contended with—more especially in the matter of transport—were very great. Lieutenant McClintock was handicapped by lack of experience in dealing with tropical conditions and labour, but no officer in the force has shown a greater energy and disregard of self, even when physically unfit to do his work. I desire also to mention the good work done by Corporal Greenway.

Telegraph Section.—The work done by Captain E. V. Turner, R.E., has been excellent. Under his superintendance the air-line from Lagos to Jebba has been constructed, and extended to Fort Goldie to the north, and a considerable distance towards Lokoja in the south. The efficiency of the line thus hastily constructed in a country of hurricanes, through continuous forest and cutting—and in spite of tropical rains—is evidenced by the fewness of the periods during which interruption has occurred.

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But, apart from technical skill, Captain Turner has proved himself unusually successful in handling native labourers and coast clerks and operators, and in traversing without friction the territories of the Emir of Illorin and in avoiding the suspicions of his fractious chiefs. He has specially mentioned the good work done by 2nd Corporal Rubery, and Sapper F. J. Lewis. Of this corps I have to record with regret the death of Sergeant J. Collins.

Transport Department.—The work thrown upon this Department has been altogether too heavy. Mr. Dangerfield, the Chief Transport Officer, has worked hard under overwhelming difficulties, but the details which should have been undertaken by a subordinate have occupied his time to the exclusion in some instances of weightier matters. Sergeant Jones has been reported upon in terms of high praise. The Department suffered a great loss in the death of Store-keeper Reynolds, an upright, hard-working, and very efficient man, who formerly accompanied me through Borgu.

Medical Department.—I cannot speak in terms of too great praise of the work and efficiency of the Medical Department, and were I to attempt to name the medical officers who have done first-class work I should be compelled to enumerate the names of almost every one without exception. During the operations in Borgu preceding the Convention with France, the Medical Department (most ably represented by Dr. Rock) tended the sick, and later (subsequent to the Convention), when a large number of posts from Illo to Jebba, and from Jebba to Okuta, Ashigiri, and Kiama, were held by British troops, the Department detached officers and non-commissioned officers to the medical charge of these detachments. This threw very heavy work on the headquarters of the hospitals, but the call was met with ability and unflinching energy. Of the senior officers, Dr. Poole and Dr. Rees not only earned the complete confidence of all, and were unceasing in their attention, but by microscopic research have endeavoured to elucidate the obscure origins of malaria and "blackwater." Of the juniors, none was more insistent in his work and regardless of himself than the late Dr. Rock, whose loss was felt by all as a personal grief,—while Drs. Ensor and Mottram and Tichborne all proved themselves efficient and zealous. The work of the nurses is summarised in a recent telegram to me from Colonel Willcocks, who says: "Dr. Poole recommends four female nurses instead of three, and attributes to them all recent recoveries of blackwater fever." Of the non-commissioned officers, the names of Sergeant-Majors F. Wakefield, G. Nosworthy, and G. Hew deserve to be specially mentioned.

Accounts Department.—If I have used terms of strong praise for the Medical Department, I desire to express no lesser approbation for the work done by Messrs. Glossop and Harrison, Chief and Assistant Accountants. Practically without assistance,

they have laboured indefatigably to clear up tangled arrears. In this connection Mr. Harrison perhaps deserves special praise. Mr. Glossop has shown that he possesses two qualities, which I venture to submit mark him out as qualified for larger responsibility. He is jealous of the public expenditure, and shows anxiety on all occasions to check expenditure and to insist on adequate authority, and he has initiative by which he has effected several minor reforms and simplification of procedure without sacrifice of principles.

Headquarters.—During the crisis in Borgu, from the beginning of May to the end of June (which was coincident with the expeditions against Lapai, Anam, &c., and the initial work of local organisation), the Headquarters was deprived of the services of Colonel Willcocks, Staff Officer and Second-in-Command, and of Captain Crutchley, A.D.C., who were in Borgu, and I therefore was left single-handed. To Colonel Willcocks' indefatigable energy and his unrivalled experience and capacity as a soldier is largely due the efficiency of the West African Frontier Force as a fighting force. By constant inspection on parade, exercise in "field days," daily attendance on the musketry range, he stimulated the energy of all, and secured uniformity in practice, training, dress, and routine. He has been ably seconded by the Officers Commanding Battalions (Lieutenant-Colonels Pilcher and FitzGerald), and the C.R.A. (Major Robinson), and by all British officers and non-commissioned officers. To these latter is due the credit of the training of their corps and the smartness and discipline of all ranks. Captain Booth has proved a model Staff Officer, and has more than maintained the reputation he made as Adjutant of the 5th Fusiliers. No better man could be found for the post. Lieutenant Abadie has equally proved himself an exceptionally good officer. Mr. King has done extremely good service as Confidential Clerk, and is ever ready to work, whether well or ill.

8. I have found it difficult to curtail my remarks within the compass I had intended, for, though I have left Lieutenant-Colonels Pilcher and FitzGerald to speak for the officers and non-commissioned officers of their own battalions, my necessary observations on the other corps and departments have unavoidably occupied your time, since the number concerned is large. I conclude with a few remarks on the work done.

(A) *Organisation of Force.*—I have already, in a previous dispatch, called attention to the services of Majors (temporary Lieutenant-Colonels) Willcocks, Pilcher, and FitzGerald, pointing out how successfully the arduous duties performed by these officers had been carried out. The two latter raised and brought to a comparatively high state of efficiency the two new battalions, while, as I have stated, to the former is mainly due the efficiency of the force as a whole, and the success of the operations in Borgu. I submit that the raising of a force so large as this and its ability to take the field in so short a time as a thoroughly

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reliable brigade, with efficient Medical, Transport, and Accounts Departments, with a complete body of standing orders and regulations available for the instruction of each new arrival, is a result which reflects the greatest credit on the three officers whom I have named, and represents an amount of work in an enervating climate which is hardly appreciable in England. That friction with existing local authorities, and the risks of insubordination or mutiny inherent in the enlistment of so large a body of raw natives, have been avoided, that good feeling and "camaraderie" prevail among all ranks, and that the native troops are contented, while houses have been erected, and a coinage introduced—all these bear witness to the tact and patience of the senior officers, and the admirable class of officers, non-commissioned officers, and civilians, to whom their success is so largely due.

(B) *Operations in Borgu.*—I have submitted full despatches to you upon events in Borgu. The situation there was delicate and difficult in the extreme. Colonel Willcocks was in actual command of the Expeditionary Force, and, with the assistance of Major Arnold, D.S.O., Commandant of the Royal Niger Constabulary, and with such first-class officers as Captain Welch, Lieutenant Glossop, Lieutenant Brodie, and others, British rights were upheld, and the extension of French posts into territory held by H.M. Government to be under British protection, which had up to that time been continuous, was checked. From the day that the expedition reached the neighbourhood of Kiama, it is not too much to say that the position as between the British and French was entirely changed. Further advance on the part of the French in the face of the firm attitude of Colonel Willcocks became impossible. Numerous occasions, as you are aware, offered themselves upon which a collision, which would probably have resulted in a conflagration, was only averted by the patience and tact of the officers on the spot. Their attitude, which was one of uncompromising firmness, combined with unfailing courtesy, was fast rendering the French position untenable, when the welcome news of the conclusion of the Convention arrived. The goodwill of the local population was completely won over to the British by kindness and fair dealing, which contrasted considerably with other methods of which they had had experience; so that when the time came to occupy the positions evacuated by the French, the British troops were received everywhere with demonstrations of pleasure. The rapidity with which these posts were occupied, and the fact that no untoward incident whatever occurred either as regards the French or the people of the country, proves the efficiency of the expedition (for forced marches had to be made over long distances in the rains) and the friendly attitude of the people. The most onerous, and in a sense the most difficult, task in connection with these operations was the supply of the troops from a base 60 miles distant, through dense jungle and roadless bush. For this purpose 500 carriers were constantly employed. They were a hastily-collected batch

of men, who gave incessant trouble by desertion, &c, while the difficulty of feeding them, in addition to the troops, in a country producing no supplies was very great. Provisions alike for every whiteman and every blackman, whether soldier or carrier, had to be pushed up from Jebba to Fort Goldie, and thence overland. To Lieutenant Brodie, who commanded at Fort Goldie for the greater part of the time, the greatest credit is due for his success in the organisation of the Transport Corps.

(C) *Other Operations.*—The West African Frontier Force detached officers to assist the Royal Niger Company's troops in the Argungu Expedition,—the punitive expedition to the Anambra Creek,—and to Illoh, while the Lapai Expedition was almost entirely composed of its officers and men. In each of these affairs our soldiers behaved admirably. Their fire discipline and the accuracy of their volleys were particulary noticeable, as also their steadiness and the complete control which their officers had over them. A very rapid, effective, and well-managed expedition was conducted by Major Morland to punish the murderers of Lieutenant Keating and his party.

(D) Considerable changes in the appearance of the military centres have been effected. All Europeans are now housed in temporary houses raised from the ground; the surrounding ground has been cleared; roads have been made; rocks blasted and cleared away, and the whole sanitary conditions of the camps improved beyond recognition. The telegraph progresses daily towards Lokoja, and is most efficiently served between Jebba and Lagos, while a training school of operators has been established. Detachments at short intervals stud the whole of Borgu, the chief centres being at Illo, Boussa, Fort Goldie, Kiama, Okuta, and Ashigiri. The strict sanitary rules and the conditions of life instituted at headquarters are being gradually approximated to at each of these out-stations. I have alluded to the introduction of a coinage. I cannot here enlarge upon the especial difficulties—and even risks—attendant upon this step of progress, but I am glad to be able to report that Her Majesty's coinage is now, I believe, firmly established in the Niger Sudan, and is daily extending further into the interior and becoming more popular. It is to the great personal interest shown by Company Commanders and Company Officers in the welfare of their men, and their watchfulness in seeing that they suffered no loss by this innovation, that its success is due.

Considerable areas have been roughly surveyed, both in Borgu and the Upper Niger, more especially by Major Lowry-Cole, and in Bautshi and the Upper Benue by Lieutenants Bryan and Clive.

9. I cannot conclude this report without an acknowledgment of the most efficient and invaluable co-operation of the gunboats. Lieutenant Melvill, R.N., at some personal risk, succeeded in taking the "Heron" from Jebba to Fort Goldie, where its

presence had an undoubted moral effect, while the landing party of bluejackets who proceeded to Kiama were most useful. The naval officers were ever ready to assist, no matter under what difficulties, in the transport of stores and in every way. I have to record my great personal sorrow for the death of Lieutenant Bellairs and Dr. Barter—and I speak the feeling of the whole Force—two out of the complement of four officers. Each was a type of the very best class of his service, and gave his life for his country, as many others of their comrades of the West African Frontier Force have done in Nigeria during this past year, so full of initial difficulties to be overcome.

I have, &c.,

F. D. LUGARD.

REPORT by Lieutenant-Colonel T. D. PILCHER, Northumberland Fusiliers, of the work done during 1897 and 1898, in raising and organising the 1st Battalion West African Frontier Force.

About the middle of September, 1897, when holding the appointment of Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General of the Dublin District, I was asked by the Military Secretary whether I would raise and command a battalion of Hausas and Yorubas in the Hinterland of Lagos. I accepted, and proceeded without delay to the Colonial Office, where, until the time of my departure to West Africa, I was employed with matters concerning the organisation of the force.

Start for West Africa.

On November 13th the first detachment of the 1st Battalion left Liverpool, under command of the late Captain Goldie-Taubman. This party consisted of six officers and nine non-commissioned officers, and was ordered to proceed direct to Ibádan, in the "hinterland" of Lagos.

Destination of the Battalion.

On November the 27th the Battalion Staff and the officers and non-commissioned officers of the remaining four companies of the battalion (which at this time was to consist of only six companies) left Liverpool under my command. This party consisted of 17 officers, 23 non-commissioned officers, and was accompanied by Dr. Ensor and the late Dr. Rock. At the time of leaving Liverpool our destination had not been definitely settled. On arriving at Cape Coast Castle on December 20th I received a telegram from the Secretary of State, in which he told me that,

after consultation with His Excellency Lieutenant-Colonel McCallum, C.M.G., Governor of Lagos, I was to determine how many, if any, extra officers and non-commissioned officers I would send to Ibádan, and that with the rest I was to proceed to Lokoja, on the Niger. His Excellency Lieutenant-Colonel McCallum at the same time telegraphed, strongly advocating my detaching officers and non-commissioned officers for at least two more companies to Ibádan.

Since the month of June the Governor of Lagos had been enlisting Yorubas at Ibádan, which is in the centre of the Yoruba country.

On December 22nd I had an interview with Lieutenant-Colonel McCallum in Lagos Roads. He commented on the undesirability of moving the men enlisted at Ibádan to the Niger. At the same time, His Excellency strongly advised me to send more officers and non-commissioned officers to Ibádan. Under these circumstances, being unable to satisfy myself on the matter, I had no alternative but for the present to leave at Ibádan the recruits enlisted there. I knew, however, that the ultimate destination of the battalion I commanded was to be the valley of the Niger, and, having only the previous day received a telegram telling me that over 200 recruits were waiting for me at Lokoja and that more were coming in, I determined to proceed there at once, with the whole of the Europeans on board, detaching only Dr. Ensor to go to Ibádan in medical charge of Captain Taubman's party. During the interview His Excellency promised to send me to Lokoja 150 Hausa recruits, who had been enlisted as supernumeraries to the establishment of the Lagos Constabulary. I informed His Excellency that on the first opportunity I should come from Lokoja to Ibádan, and should avail myself of the powers vested in me of deciding as to the advisability of moving the recruits he had enlisted there.

I had under my command officers with whom I had never previously served, and belonging to different regiments, and as I was most anxious to inaugurate one system throughout the battalion, I wished to bring the whole of it together to Headquarters. I told His Excellency that I would cable home for officers of one company of the 2nd Battalion to be sent forthwith to Ibádan, that they might take over from Captain Taubman the recruits remaining after the ranks of the Yoruba Companies of my battalion had been filled.

On December 23rd, the steamship "Volta" arrived at Forcados, at the mouth of the Niger.

Arrival at Lokoja.

On December 24th we embarked on two of the Royal Niger Company's river steamers, which were awaiting our arrival at Forcados, and reached Lokoja on December 29th, where we were most hospitably received by the Agent-General, and by Major Arnold, D.S.O., Commandant of the Royal Niger Constabulary,

who had with the greatest forethought made every provision in his power for the wants of the officers and non-commissioned officers.

During the next two days our time was principally spent in looking for a good camping ground in the neighourhood of Lokoja. We were for the time being in tents on the Royal Niger Constabulary's parade ground.

On December 31st, after mature deliberation and consultation with Mr. Wallace, C.M.G., Agent-General of the Royal Niger Company, and with Major Arnold and Mr. Watts, I telegraphed home for permission to move my battalion to Jebba from Lokoja, my reasons being that it was reported to me to be healthier for men and for horses, was a better base in the possible contingency of operations taking place in Borgu, and was on the main caravan route from Lagos to the central Soudan.

Recruits received from Royal Niger Constabulary.

System of decentralization.

On January 1st 350 recruits, Hausas, Nupes, and Yorubas, part of whom had already received some slight instruction in drill, were handed over to me by Major Arnold, and the work of drilling them commenced in earnest. The number of officers and non-commissioned officers at my disposal enabled me to divide these men into small sections, and with the amount of individual attention which could be thus given to them, they progressed rapidly. The principle I at first adopted, and have since rigidly adhered to, was to decentralize as much as possible. Separate companies were formed of Hausas, Yorubas, and Nupes. who all speak different languages. On being enlisted a man was posted by my order to a certain company; from that day I held the Captain entirely responsible for him. I told Captains of Companies what I required, and left them to achieve the results I demanded in their own way, forbidding the Adjutant to interfere with any Captain except by my express orders. This method gave birth to a spirit of friendly rivalry amongst companies, and officers, knowing that they would be judged by results and had a free hand, worked with a zeal which never flagged, and I doubt if any other system would have gained the results achieved by this.

Courtesy of Royal Niger Constabulary.

In thinking of this period I cannot sufficiently express the gratitude I feel for the manner in which Major Arnold assisted me, by the loan of native non-commissioned officers and in many other ways.

Work during January.

On January the 6th a punitive expedition, composed of some 300 men of the Royal Niger Constabulary, under Major Festing, started for Asaba. I gave Captain Lewis permission to accompany this expedition as a volunteer, for, his company not yet having been formed, I had no need of another Captain's services at Lokoja, though I could utilize all my subalterns by attaching three or four to each company, and thus hastening the progress of the drill.

During the first three weeks of our residence in the country we suffered considerably from malaria, nearly half the Europeans of the force on one occasion being down together. I took every step to have the country in the neighbourhood of Lokoja carefully reconnoitred in order to find the best possible site for a camp. My task was rendered much more difficult owing to the fact that the grass was still high, and in most places not dry enough to burn.

The country.

The surface of the country in this part of West Africa, presents at different times of year very different aspects. In December the whole country is covered with grass, varying from four feet to ten feet in height, the "one man paths" which intersect the country being the only means of passing through it. By February most of the grass has been burnt, and the view is only intercepted by small trees, which are dotted over the whole country, generally with an interval of a few yards between each. The exceptions to this rule are that the ground for a few miles round a Foulah stronghold has generally been cleared in order to suit their tactics, and that in the neighbourhood of watercourses, and in marshy ground, there are often belts of forest varying in width, and consisting of magnificent trees, with an almost impenetrable undergrowth. From 50 miles below Lokoja to the coast forest of this description abounds. There are all round Lokoja and Jebba many ranges of table mountains about 1,000 to 1,200 feet in height.

Move to Jebba.

When I cabled to England on December 31st, asking permission to move to Jebba, I worded my cablegram so as to say that if I did not receive orders to the contrary I should proceed there. On January 18th the steam wheeler "Liberty" arrived at Lokoja, bringing 98 Hausa recruits from Lagos, under command of Lieutenant Leet, but no answer to my cablegram of December 31st. Therefore, after consultation with officials of the Royal Niger Company, who told me that 18 days was ample time to allow for an answer to reach me, I decided to move to Jebba, for I was most anxious to commence building the best houses available, before the rainy season commenced. I made arrangements with the Royal Niger Company to procure me builders and send them to Jebba, and was assured that if building were at once commenced, mud houses with thatched roofs for all Europeans would be complete in three months. The difficulty in building these houses is that not more than a foot of wall can be built every two or three days, in order to allow it to dry before being added to.

I started for Jebba in the "Liberty," with 4 officers, Dr. Rock, and 220 men. On the 24th we arrived at Jebba, and on that and the following day selected and laid out what I considered a good camp on the right bank of the River Niger. On January 26th, after giving Captain Blackader, whom I left in command, instructions as to clearing the bush, making paths, &c., I re-embarked for Lokoja.

On the way down river I only saw one possible camping ground between Jebba and Lokoja, viz., at Piafafu, near Shonga, which is a large town, and through which a caravan route passes across the Niger.

On reaching Lokoja on January 28th I received a cablegram from the Secretary of State ordering me not to proceed to Jebba, and on the first opportunity I instructed Captain Blackader to return.

Despatch of Major Reade to Ibádan.

Seeing that it would for some time to come be impossible for me to leave Lokoja, and go to Ibádan, much as I should have liked to do so, I ordered Major Reade, my second in command, who was at this time near Illórin, buying ponies, to proceed there, giving to him the full powers vested in me with regard to the movement of the Yoruba recruits enlisted there, and informing His Excellency the Governor of Lagos that I had done so.

Clearing a camp at Lokoja, &c.

The day after reaching Lokoja I decided to occupy a camp to the south of the town, and about a mile from it down the Niger, it being, in my opinion, by far the best position in the vicinity, and the work of clearing at once commenced. For those who do not know African bush, it is hard to comprehend the difficulties which clearing presents. Our tools were few, and we had principally to rely on the matchets (knives with a handle and blade, 14 ins. by 3 ins.) issued to the men, and "trade" gunpowder, lit with impromptu trains, which made agility a necessary qualification of the engineer. With these means, and working eight hours a day, partly in the fierce sun, and always under Europeans, the men succeeded in removing rock and roots, cutting down small trees, clearing stones, levelling, and making drains in anticipation of the rains. After three weeks of this work, we had prepared a parade ground so large that I was able to say that no more clearing was to stand in the way of morning and afternoon parades, and all else must give way to drill.

It must be borne in mind that at this time it was considered possible that the men I was commanding might soon be required for service, and it was on this account that I was so eager to push on their training.

At this time and until the month of May, when some mud houses privately built by officers had been completed, officers and non-commissioned officers were living in small tents, or in houses constructed of grass and mats, neither of which were proof against the tornados and the heavy rains which accompanied them.

The question of water proved a great difficulty; this had all to be conveyed from the Niger, and boiled and filtered before it was wholesome and sufficiently clear to be drinkable. Before long the strain wore out the filters and rough ones with sand had to be devised.

In order not to interfere with the drill, and at the same time to construct a range, I hired outside labour for this purpose, and for carrying water.

On February 17th Captain Blackader returned from Jebba, whence he had come in canoes, having been much assisted by the kindness of Lieutenant Melvill and the late Lieutenant Bellairs, the officers commanding Her Majesty's gunboats "Heron" and "Jackdaw." Return from Jebba.

Captain Blackader reported that when he had received orders to return he had already done much towards clearing the site of the proposed camp at Jebba. He also reported that two days before leaving a fight had taken place between his recruits and the detachment of the Royal Niger Constabulary stationed at Jebba, under command of Lieutenant Carroll, that the constabulary had behaved excellently, and that order had within five minutes been restored by the Europeans, who were quickly on the spot.

By the 12th February my force at Lokoja had swelled to 450 men.

On February 21st arms were issued to companies for drill purposes. At night the arms were returned, and put in tents in the vicinity of the European lines, with a guard over them. Later, rough houses were built under company arrangements for the storing of arms, but the principle of returning arms at night was always adhered to, as in the Royal Niger Constabulary. It was found that men progressed much more rapidly when arms had been issued to them, and when they first received them their faces beamed with joy and pride. They are big children, and should be treated as such. They require to be treated with kindness, but sometimes with severity. Issue of arms. Nature of the men.

They fortunately neither understand nor take any interest in the technicalities of law, which the educated native is so fond of, but are ready to accept and abide by a decision, even if adverse, as long as they have confidence in the judge, and everybody has been allowed "to have his say." A great matter for regret is that a European is so much in the hands of his interpreter. In hearing one case five languages are often spoken.

I and many officers under my command thought that our former Indian experience would be of use to us in West Africa; of this we were, however, soon disillusioned. Indian experience of little use in West Africa

About the beginning of March, a case which seemed to be one of grave insubordination arose. A certain native lance-corporal, a man of influence, being the son of a chief, stepped forward and exhorted the men of his company not to touch some loads they had been ordered to carry, and they refused to execute the order. The men were marched back under an escort, and compelled to do as they were ordered, the lance-corporal severely punished and the men not allowed to drill with their rifles for a week. Insubordination.

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This at the time exposed them to so much ridicule that they would rather, I believe, have passed the week in prison. I mention this incident to show the nature of the men who have to be dealt with. At this time they, of course, had only some two months' service.

French in Argungu.

On February 16th I sent a cablegram to the Under-Secretary of State, saying that a reliable report had reached me that a party of French soldiers, under European officers, had crossed the Niger into Argungu. The contents of this cablegram were afterwards confirmed.

Arrival of hutting material.

On March 1st Captain R. L. McClintock, R.E., arrived at Lokoja, bringing with him a large amount of material for constructing huts. He had orders to collect all the material near the camp, and to sort out the component parts of each hut, but not to commence erecting any until Colonel Lugard, who was expected to follow immediately, should personally select the sites for the same.

Until their actual arrival I had no idea that the sending out of such huts had been contemplated. The mud houses now approaching completion were, however, of great use, for they were occupied until sufficient huts to shelter the whole of the Europeans were erected, viz., about July 1st, and were then utilised as store houses and Government offices.

On March 4th three non-commissioned officers were invalided to England, the result of malarial fever.

Expedition to Argungu.

On March 14th I gave permission to Lieutenants Dibley, Rigby and Taylor to accompany an expedition then starting for Argungu, under Major Arnold, Commandant of the Royal Niger Constabulary.

Rifle ranges.

The camp and its vicinity were daily being improved, and by April a musketry range had been completed, butts erected, and targets on trollies constructed with the rough tools we had. By this time a wharf had also been made on the banks of the Niger, below the camp.

Increased establishment.

During the month of March half the officers and non-commissioned officers who were to compose the 2nd battalion, and the officers and non-commissioned officers required to bring the battalion under my command up to eight companies of 150 natives each, which I now heard was to be its establishment, arrived at Lokoja. The Head-quarters of the 2nd Battalion had proceeded to Ibádan, viâ Lagos.

On March 28th our first death occurred, viz., that of Corporal Steuart, who died of malarial fever.

Arrival of Yorubas from Ibádan.

On reaching Ibádan, to which place, as I previously stated, I sent him, Major Reade, after consultation with His Excellency the Governor of Lagos, decided to move the recruits enlisted there, who were intended for the battalion under my command,

and on April 3rd and April 4th this party, consisting of six officers, one doctor, eight European non-commissioned officers, and 485 men, arrived at Lokoja by river.

Before leaving Ibádan, Major Reade handed over the remaining recruits to Lieutenant-Colonel FitzGerald, commanding the 2nd Battalion.

I take this opportunity of stating that the course Major Reade pursued thoughout the time he was acting for me in Lagos territory has my entire approval, and I am of opinion that he acted with tact, judgment, and discretion.

The Yorubas from Ibádan were a fine body of men, and the knowledge of their duties which they had already acquired was most creditable to Captain Goldie-Taubman and those who had been in command of them, and also to Captain F. de V. P. Creighton, who had charge of them in the first instance.

Arrival of Colonel Lugard.

On April 10th Colonel Lugard, C.B., D.S.O., accompanied by Lieutenant-Colonel Willcocks, D.S.O., arrived at Lokoja, from Forcados, and on the following day inspected the battalion.

On April 13th Colonel Lugard and Lieutenant-Colonel Willcocks left for Jebba, and soon afterwards, as opportunity occurred, all officers and non-commissioned officers of the 2nd Battalion were gradually sent up there by river.

Ill-feeling between Hausas and Yorubas.

During the month of April disturbances on more than one occasion took place between the Hausas and the newly-imported Yorubas. The former were generally the aggressors; they are naturally quarrelsome, and, looking on soldiering under the white man as their monopoly, objected to men whom they regarded as intruders, both in their profession and in their adopted country. These disturbances were all quelled without any serious consequences, and all hostile feeling soon disappeared.

If properly used, the racial feeling in a battalion composed of different races is a powerful weapon in the hands of a commander, but it is one that must be used with great caution.

Draft to Niger Coast Protectorate.

About the beginning of May I was ordered by Colonel Lugard, who had come from Jebba for a short stay, to send 100 men to the Niger Coast Protectorate, in accordance with orders to that effect received from the Secretary of State, and in consequence 100 Yorubas were sent. It was naturally a great disappointment to have to transfer these men, with whose training so much trouble had been taken.

Anam expedition.

On May 3rd Major Reade, Capt. Lewis, and Lieuts. Clive and Johnson, with 100 men from the battalion under my command who had already been put through a short course of musketry, left Asaba to assist in a punitive expedition, under command of Major Festing, Royal Niger Constabulary, which had been ordered to punish the tribes in the neighbourhood of Anam, about 100 miles below Lokoja, and on the Niger. From

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the report subsequently received from Major Festing, I consider that the behaviour of these recruits reflects great credit on their company officers, Capt. Lewis and Lieut. Johnson.

Musketry course.

During the months of April and May, rapid progress was made with the musketry and drill of the battalion. The course of musketry I instituted was an adaptation of the German course, the guiding principle of which is that the bad shot requires much more practice than the good shot, and gets it, firing many more rounds, and not being allowed to go on to another distance until he has qualified at the previous one. Company commanders who put their companies through this course are unanimously in favour of its advantages. This course was continued until July, when another for the whole force was drawn up by the Commandant.

On May 11th Colonel Lugard left Lokoja, and did not return until he passed through on his way home, towards the end of August.

Fall of the Niger.

The Niger by this time had dropped to such an extent that up to July only one steamboat on the river could travel between Jebba and Lokoja, and this one, a small launch, and canoes which took from three to five weeks to do the double journey, were the only means of communication between these places.

Reinforcements for Jebba.

On May 16th, in accordance with orders received, I despatched the whole of the Royal Artillery then present at Lokoja, and also 120 Yorubas, under command of Captain Gillespie, of the battalion under my command, by canoe to Jebba. Captain Gillespie, on arrival at Jebba, was pushed further north, to garrison certain points on the river north of Jebba.

Tornados.

The tornado season commenced in March, and from this time tornados gradually became more frequent, until in August they gave way to the heavy rains. These rains were, however, by no means incessant, a storm seldom lasting more than six hours, though while it lasted it was often very violent.

A tornado consists of a violent wind, followed by heavy rain. The effect is local, and the tornado occasionally within a few hours returns from the other direction.

These tornados were, until we were properly housed, a source of great discomfort. Papers and light articles had to be covered up, and the inmates of the tents and grass houses, which in many cases were not impervious to the tropical rain, were often compelled to pass the night cowering in some corner, covered with a waterproof, in order to keep a little dry.

Deaths.

During March and April four deaths occurred at Lokoja, all being attributable to malaria.

Lapai expedition.

Before leaving Lokoja on May 11th, Colonel Lugard told me that on the Agent-General of the Royal Niger Company desiring me to do so, I was to furnish 200 men, with a certain proportion

of Europeans, and was myself to take command of an expedition which might be required to take the field against the Emirs of Lapai and Argayeh.

On June 2nd Mr. Drew, the Acting Agent-General (Mr. Wallace, C.M.G., the Agent-General being seriously ill and absent from Lokoja), informed me that since Mr. Wallace had seen Colonel Lugard the aspect had become much more serious, that the Emirs of Lapai and Argayeh had been slave raiding, and razing towns down to the very banks of the Niger, and that, unless immediate action were taken, a blow would be dealt to British prestige, the consequences of which would be far-reaching and disastrous. He further informed me that reports led him to believe that considerable resistance would be offered, and that in his opinion the force for which Mr. Wallace originally asked Colonel Lugard would not be sufficient to cope with the opposition which might be encountered.

On these representations, and taking into consideration that any reverse would bring upon us the whole forces of Bida, whose adherents were unofficially aiding Lapai and Argayeh, I determined to increase the force to be sent from my battalion to a total of 300 men in the ranks, as well as three Maxim guns and their detachments. In addition to this the Royal Niger Constabulary placed at my disposal 60 infantry, with one Maxim, and 40 gunners, with one 9-pounder Whitworth gun and three 7-pounder mountain guns, the whole under command of Lieutenant Carroll.

Concerning the work of the expedition, a special despatch has been sent to the Secretary of State, and it will suffice here to say that, by a forced march, the enemy, consisting of some 600 horsemen and 3,000 footmen, were completely taken by surprise, and routed with considerable loss. Their camps and strongholds were destroyed, and their power completely broken, with practically no loss on our side, except from sickness.

The behaviour of my recruits was good, their volleys being perfect, and their conduct soldierlike.

On July 1st the expedition returned to Lokoja.

Sickness.

We now reached the sickliest time of the year: nine deaths among the officers and the European non-commissioned officers, whose total strength only averaged about 55, taking place at Lokoja, and on the expedition, during the six weeks which included July and embraced the end of June and commencement of August.

During July there was great mortality among the horses, but with this subject I intend to deal in a separate paragraph.

Work from July to December, 1898.

Between the months of July and December great progress was made with the drill and musketry of the battalion, and the camp and its vicinity were greatly improved. More ground was cleared, Bahama grass was planted, an extended parade ground and a

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fair polo ground made, the range was completed as a six-section range, and firing points constructed at 500 and 600 yards. The neighbourhood of the hospital, which had been built on the space adjacent to the one on which the camp was erected, was cleared, wells were dug, and various other improvements made. The above was all done by soldier labour.

There is at present, and for long will be, much useful labour for the men of the battalion to perform, but if there were not, I should advocate work being made for them. If never called upon to perform manual labour, the West African soldier is apt "to get above himself," and if allowed to do this he soon becomes useless.

A strict rule should, however, be made that, when performing fatigues, men should always work under the direct command of their officers, or non-commissioned officers, white or black, who must invariably treat them as soldiers.

The work above mentioned was all performed without interfering with the drill or training of the men.

Inspections.

On August 11th Lieutenant-Colonel Willcocks arrived from Jebba, and remained in Lokoja until August 16th, when he was unexpectedly recalled to Jebba. During his stay at Lokoja he thoroughly inspected the battalion, and also the whole system on which the business of the Station Staff Office, the Orderly Room, the Transport Department, &c., was transacted.

On August the 29th Colonel Lugard arrived at Lokoja on his way to England, and on the following day saw the battalion on parade, and expressed his very great appreciation of the soldierly appearance of the men and of their drill and smartness on parade.

Deaths of Lieutenant Keating's party.

On October 18th news reached me of the deaths of Lieutenant Keating, Corporal Gale, and fourteen native non-commissioned officers and men, at Helo Island, about 30 miles above Boussa. Lieutenant Keating, with 30 men, was sent up in July to reinforce the company under Captain Gillespie, which left Lokoja for Jebba in May. The detachment of which Lieutenant Keating was in command was stationed at Rafia, on the Niger.

The Chief of Helo Island having behaved in a manner which rendered it necessary that he should be arrested, Lieutenant Keating, with the above-mentioned party, proceeded to Helo Island to perform this duty, expecting no resistance. The party proceeded to the town, when it was suddenly fallen upon by overwhelming numbers. With difficulty a way was fought back to the beach. Here ammunition ran out. Lieutenant Keating killed the Chief with his own hand, but the party was overpowered, and, on attempting to get into their canoes, all except two were killed or drowned. These two escaped wounded to tell the tale.

The only consoling feature in this sad affair is that all died fighting, and that the men (Nupes), from all accounts which can be gathered, fought with determination and courage, until they fell at the side of their leaders.

On October 5th two companies, consisting of 222 men, were dispatched with 50 ponies to Jebba.

Readiness for active service.

During the months of October and November events in other parts of the world made it appear possible that troops might be required in Borgu, and during these months I was prepared at six hours' notice to send off another 400 fully trained and equipped men, ready in every sense to take part in a campaign.

On December 21st I left Lokoja *en route* for England, accompanied by those officers and non-commissioned officers who had completed the year in West Africa, for which they agreed to serve, and who did not wish to prolong their tour of service.

State of battalion in December, 1898.

When I left Lokoja the battalion which I handed over temporarily to Captain Crutchley was 907 strong, this number being made up of 430 Yorubas, 400 Hausas, and 77 Nupes. The majority of the Nupes can now speak a certain amount of Hausa.

Of these 907 men, 700 were trained to such an extent that I should be proud to command them anywhere, either on service or on a field day at Aldershot, where I am convinced they would drill as well as half the battalions out. The native non-commissioned officers were thoroughly capable of taking command of their sections, and of drilling them or the company.

The musketry was very fair and the fire discipline good. On several occasions companies firing volleys at ranges of 500 and 600 yards, at a target 6 ft. by 12 ft., have got over 50 per cent. of hits on the target.

During the first four months we were in Africa I held neither a commanding officer's nor an adjutant's parade, leaving everything to the company commanders, Captains Goldie-Taubman, Marsh, Blackader, Webb, Hall, Lewis, and Gillespie; and it is entirely to their capacity and energy, and to the increased interest generated by the fact that they found themselves left alone to think and act for themselves, and to the spirit of rivalry which this system of decentralization gave birth to, that I attribute the results obtained.

Expedition to Illah.

In December, at the request of the Agent-General of the Royal Niger Company, and with the permission of the Commandant, I sent Captain Marsh's company to assist the Royal Niger Constabulary in an expedition then taking place in the vicinity of Illah, which is situated on the Niger about 100 miles below Lokoja.

The Commandment of the Royal Niger Constabulary, at the termination of this expedition, spoke to me enthusiastically of the discipline and drill, as well as of the fire discipline, of this company.

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Delay in filling vacancies.

During the last two or three months of my tour in West Africa work was impeded by the fact that vacancies caused by death and invaliding were not filled as they occurred, and after the officers whose year expired in December left West Africa, out of an establishment of 28 officers, only 13 remained in the country, and only 19 non-commissioned officers out of an establishment of 44. This staff would in no way be adequate to satisfactorily carry on necessary duties in a healthy country, but in West Africa a considerable portion of the Europeans are always on the sick list.

The native soldier becomes attached to an officer or non-commissioned officer whom he knows, but when handed over to a man whom they have never seen before, a company for some time is like a dog which has lost its master. Knowing the feeling of the men in this matter, I was especially anxious to dovetail officers who were coming out with those who were going home, so that they might for a few weeks at least work together in the same companies, and that the fresh arrivals might, if possible, take over some of the results of the old hand's experience, at the same time as they took over the arms and accounts.

The non-arrival of reliefs defeated my efforts, and was a bitter disappointment to me, as well as to the officers who had trained, and for one year lived for, their companies.

Only 60 per cent. of those who started from England in 1897 completed their year in the country, for 18 per cent. died and 22 per cent. were invalided.

Situation of the Imperial camp at Lokoja.

The camp at Lokoja is situated on the advanced slopes of a spur, which juts out from the mountain in rear of the camp, and runs down to the Niger. The hospital is on a similar spur. These spurs are drained by watercourses between and on either side of them. The site of the camp looks a particularly healthy one, and undoubtedly is the best in the vicinity of Lokoja, the view in front of the camp, both up and down the Niger, and up the Benue, is magnificent, and those to the rear and flanks are almost as beautiful.

It is difficult to conceive why a situation with so many apparent advantages is as unhealthy as is actually the case. The country round and to the north of Lokoja is covered with high grass, and with trees of the size and at the distance apart that trees usually are in an English orchard. In the neighbourhood of watercourses, in marshy ground, and generally in the country drained by the Lower Niger, the vegetation becomes dense, and the soil is covered with big trees, and impenetrable undergrowth, which absolutely binds travellers to the paths through the entangled bush.

Horses.

Not only is the valley of the Niger unhealthy for mankind, but also for horses and cattle. The African disease resulting from the bite of the tsetse fly and the Indian disease of Surra, which have similar symptoms, and give birth to a similar microbe

in the blood, are, I fully believe, both present, or, to be more accurate, I am convinced that the symptoms which prove fatal are on the Niger the result in some cases of eating rank grass, as in Surra, and in others of the bite of the tsetse fly, which carries the germs of this disease from impregnated to healthy animals. Of the 160 horses bought at Lokoja during the year I was there, not more than 60 were living when I left. I feel certain that the presence of a good veterinary surgeon would have done much to prevent this high death rate.

Horses are not bred in the immediate neighbourhood of Lokoja, and those we obtained came either from the neighbourhood of Illorin or from the country round Ibi, on the Benue. The soil in all parts of West Africa which I have traversed is extremely stony, and I am more convinced now than when I wrote for horseshoes, of the great advantage which would arise of shoeing horses on their fore feet. I would not recommend their being shod behind, as the concussion on the hind feet is less, and unshod horses get a better foothold on the rocks, which have often to be climbed.

Uniform.

The question of the uniform of the force is one into which I do not here intend to enter, except to say that, whatever the material or pattern, I consider kharki colour preferable to blue.

The rifle.

The Martini-Enfield carbines used are excellent, and well adapted, in my opinion, to the requirements of the force. The fact that they are of small bore and fire cordite, thus requiring great and constant care in cleaning, in the damp climate of West Africa, is not an unmitigated disadvantage, for as long as these rifles remain in our hands the requisite care will presumably always be bestowed on them. If, on the other hand, any should be stolen with a view to being used against us, it is equally certain that a want of proper attention will speedily render them almost useless.

Characteristics of the natives.

Before concluding, I think that a few remarks on the chief characteristics of the natives with whom I had to deal would not be out of place.

Rudyard Kipling's words "half child, half devil," applied by him to the Filipinos, apply equally to the soldiers I commanded, for they are a strange mixture of both. They seem to have absolute confidence in a white man whom they like, but they take strong likes and dislikes. They love to be taken, as it were, a little into their captain's confidence, and if this be done, and they are given a reason for a supposed hardship, they will readily bear it. They, however, very naturally like to hear facts from the white man's own lips, for they possess sufficient discernment to have but little confidence in the probity, or disinterested reasons, of their own native non-commissioned officers, who can drill them and exercise discipline, but who, if they have opportunity to do so, seldom fail to presume on their position, and to exercise extortion from those under them. Unfortunately the chance of

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detection of malpractices is much decreased by the fact that the non-commissioned officer, being the better educated man, is often the interpreter through whose medium the case against himself is in the first instance heard.

For native non-commissioned officers or soldiers travelling unaccompanied by Europeans to extort blackmail is, in their eyes, a matter of course, in spite of the white man's orders and ideas as to the rights of property, which are mere foolish prejudices in the native's eyes.

The manner in which we regard slavery, moreover, tends to complicate the question in the minds of men who fail to see a difference between slaves and other property.

To sum up, the men I commanded are naturally brave, vigorous, fairly intelligent, excellent marchers, hardy, and of good physique, but they are inclined to be cruel, do not tell the truth, and are dishonest. Neither they nor any other natives of West Africa whom I have met are, in my opinion, fit for positions of trust, where constant supervision is not exercised. They require tactful, but very firm treatment.

Hausas.

The Hausas are more quarrelsome than the Yorubas or Nupes, get into trouble more often, and are not so quick at picking up drill or musketry. They are more excitable and harder to keep in hand, but they are a race whose courage has been tried, and is highly spoken of by officers better able than I am to give an opinion on this point.

Yorubas.

I make a great difference between the agricultural Yoruba from the neighbourhood of Ibádan and the men enlisted on the outskirts of the Yoruba county, or so-called "Bush Yorubas."

The former are physically, morally, and intellectually the better men. They are quick, intelligent, good shots, clean and neat in their appearance, and on fatigue duty are much better men than the Hausas or Nupes. Those who have seen them highly tried on service speak well of them, though opportunity has seldom occurred for putting their courage to the same test as has been done in the case of the Hausas.

Nupes.

The Nupes are physically the finest men of all; they are very intelligent and shoot well. On the one occasion on which their courage has been tried under European leadership they are reported to have behaved well.

The Yorubas of Ibádan are said to be a race never conquered by another tribe, and for many years they waged a war with the Foulah Chief of Illórin, in which neither party was victorious. I have often doubted whether there really is any great difference in the fighting qualities of the different tribes who inhabit the countries near the middle Niger and the Benue, or whether the prestige which at a certain period a certain people hold is not owing to the accident of that people recently having had a leader

capable of organizing his forces, and thus leading his tribe to certain victory. After the death of such a man the tribe lives on its reputation, until another leader rises and turns the tide.

During the month of March Lieutenant Bryan was sent on a recruiting tour up the Benue, and was afterwards followed by Lieutenant Clive. These officers traversed and mapped much previously unexplored country in the neighbourhood of Bautshi, north of the Benue; they also succeeded in sending to Lokoja a considerable number of Hausa recruits and some horses. Lieutenant Bryan has submitted a most clear and interesting report on the country through which he and Lieutenant Clive passed, as well as the sketches above referred to.

Before concluding this report, which has already reached a greater length than I intended it to assume, I wish to bring to notice the excellent work done by the officers and non-commissioned officers I had the honour of commanding. I never wish to have a more capable, conscientious, and hard-working body of men under me.

My special thanks are due to my Adjutant, Captain P. S. Wilkinson, Northumberland Fusiliers; to Captain Blackader, Leicestershire Regiment; Captain Marsh, Royal West Kent Regiment; Captain M. Hall, P.W.O. West Yorkshire Regiment; Lieutenant Tomlin, P.W.O. Yorkshire Regiment; and Lieutenant A. B. Molesworth, West India Regiment; to Sergeant-Major A. F. West, Rifle Brigade; Colour-Sergeant J. R. McIntosh, 2nd Battalion Seaforth Highlanders; Colour-Sergeant J. McKenzie, Depot, Seaforth Highlanders; Colour-Sergeant W. Tyson, Royal Lancaster Regiment; Colour-Sergeant J. Humphries, West Riding Regiment; and Colour-Sergeant E. H. Dinham, Gloucestershire Regiment; also to Lieutenants Bryan, Lincolnshire Regiment, and A. P. Clive, Grenadier Guards, who executed an excellent combined sketch of unexplored country north of the Benue, which was supplemented by a well-drawn-out and useful report by Lieutenant Bryan. My thanks are, moreover, due to Major Reade for the manner in which, as I have already stated, he acted for me whilst at Ibádan, and to Captain Gillespie and Lieut. Rigby, R.M.L.I., who, under trying circumstances, did good work on the Niger, north of Jebba.

T. D. PILCHER, Lieutenant-Colonel,
West African Frontier Force.

Naval and Military Club, London,
March 9, 1899.

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COLONEL LUGARD to COLONIAL OFFICE.

Haslemere,

11th April 1899.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the report which, in accordance with your instructions, I directed Lieutenant-Colonel FitzGerald to submit on the raising of the 2nd Battalion West African Frontier Force, and the work done by the Battalion.

2. In doing so I desire to endorse most heartily the praise given by Lieutenant-Colonel FitzGerald to the officers and British non-commissioned officers of his battalion. The march from Ibádan to Jebba—166 miles—in ten days (picking up a hundred good recruits on the way) without any trouble or friction on the road, or difficulty regarding supplies, speaks for the tact and forethought of the Commandant and his officers. The method and order with which from the first all the correspondence and orderly room work was conducted, and the infrequency of severe punishment (though discipline was fully maintained) prove on the one hand that indefatigable personal effort was expended by all European ranks, and on the other that the men understood their orders and worked well for their officers.

3. These results were due to the zeal and ability of Lieutenant-Colonel FitzGerald, the Commandant, and of his Adjutant, Captain Booth, in particular, supported by such excellent officers as Major Morland, Captains Baker, Somerset, and Fremantle, and Lieutenant and Quartermaster O'Malley. It is due to the memory of the late Captain Baker and the Hon. R. Somerset that I should record the great personal sorrow which we all felt at the deaths of these—two of the very best and most popular officers in the force—and the great loss which the battalion sustained. Colonel FitzGerald has described the "Farm" of which Captain Somerset took charge, and the boon which it proved to his brother officers and to all white men at Jebba. It was no light task to undertake this in addition to his very onerous work as Adjutant and President of the Mess, which he had brought to a state as complete, comfortable, and orderly in all its accounts, &c., as though instituted in a civilized country.

Captain and Adjutant Booth was promoted Staff Officer on the Headquarter Staff, and a more efficient and better Staff Officer could not be found.

Lieutenant O'Malley, as Quartermaster, was efficient and indefatigable, and he has shown great care of Government property and accuracy in the difficult conditions inherent in the post he volunteered to fill.

Colour-Sergeant Bradley (2nd Royal Irish Fusiliers) has been continuously employed as Military Clerk on the Headquarter Staff, where he has worked hard and well; and, in addition to the non-commissioned officers mentioned in Lieutenant-Colonel FitzGerald's report, Armourer-Sergeant Chapman (Durham Light Infantry), Colour-Sergeant Barton (Royal Lancaster Regiment), and Colour-Sergeant Wingate (Rifle Brigade) have been mentioned to me by Colonel Willcocks as having done good service.

4. My former report contained some remarks upon the work done by the 1st Battalion and the other Corps and Departments of the West African Frontier Force. As a whole, it would be difficult to find a more zealous, efficient, and cheery set of officers than those who have raised and brought to its present state of efficiency the West African Frontier Force. Selected from different regiments of the army, they brought with them the best traditions of every corps, but the influence which has welded this material, however excellent, into a single effective force full of *esprit de corps*, and in which differences and quarrels (even in a climate and conditions like West Africa) were unknown, was that of Colonel Willcocks, C.M.G., D.S.O., who has for many months past been officiating as commandant. The rapidity with which the officers housed themselves and the British non-commissioned officers (precedence being given to the latter) with mere grass and poles from the jungle, and the equally rapid progress made in drill and musketry, form a record upon which comment from me is needless. The results were seen when I had to order a company of the 2nd Battalion at midnight to march 26 miles, crossing swollen streams in the rains, a company which had barely emerged from the recruit stage, and had but finished their recruits' musketry a day or two before. Their Captain (G. Fremantle), though suffering from fever, was on the march within two hours of the receipt of the order, and the distance was covered in 24 hours. Emulation and rivalry, without demur at the hardship of the task, was the response to the call I had made. Again, in the well planned and executed little campaign by a company of the 1st Battalion under Major Morland to punish the murderers of Lieutenant Keating and his party, the Battalion proved what its training had done for it. It was undoubtedly due to the exceptional rapidity and excellency of all arrangements made in this expedition that so few casualties occurred, and the results were so decisive. For his success in this difficult task, and his able command of the 1st Battalion since the departure of Lieutenant-Colonel Pilcher, Colonel Willcocks has strongly recommended the inclusion of Major Morland's name among those submitted for special consideration.

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I fully endorse Colonel's Willcocks's recommendation, for I had myself selected Major Morland for the difficult post of Commandant in Eastern Borgu and the relief of the garrisons held by the French—a task he carried out most ably and without friction.

5. Portions of both battalions and of the artillery have had other opportunities of proving their efficiency in the field; on all occasions with most satisfactory results, as I have had occasion from time to time to report to you.

I have, &c.,

F. D. LUGARD.

REPORT by Lieutenant-Colonel H. S. FITZGERALD, Durham Light Infantry, of the work done during 1897 and 1898, in raising and organising the 2nd Battalion West African Frontier Force.

1. On the 24th November, 1897, I took up the appointment of Commandant of the 2nd Battalion West African Frontier Force, which it had been decided to raise, and until my departure for West Africa, I was employed at the Colonial Office in organising the battalion.

Start for West Africa.

2. On the 5th February, 1898, Headquarters and three companies (consisting of 15 officers and 19 non-commissioned officers) embarked for West Africa, and reached Lagos Roads on the 3rd March, where orders were received to disembark, and proceed inland to Ibadan.

March to Ibadan.

3. After laying in two months' supply of provisions for my party, I proceeded on the 10th March from Lagos up the lagoon in launches to Epé, and thence by route march through Jebu Odé, Aha, Elikou, Odo Anakekri, to Ibadan. Here I took over the surplus Yoruba recruits from the detachment 1st Battalion West African Frontier Force, and commenced recruiting for the battalion. A few days later the detachment 1st Battalion left Ibadan for Lokoja *viâ* Lagos.

Oyo.

4. On the 23rd March I proceeded to Oyo (the nearest place in telegraphic communication with Lagos), where I received orders from Colonel Lugard, C.B., D.S.O., to be in readiness to march at short notice either to Lokoja or Jebba.

5. I returned at once to Ibadan, and dispatched Major Morland and Lieutenant Buxton to report on the roads towards Jebba as far as the Yoruba-Illorin boundary, and I directed Captain Hon. R. Somerset and Lieutenant Pope Hennessy to proceed as far as Kabba in the direction of Lokoja with the same object.

Despatch officers on reconnaissance duty.

I would here mention that part of the country traversed by Captain Hon. R. Somerset's party had not previously been explored. He submitted a most clear and interesting report on the country passed through, and received the thanks of the Commissioner and Commandant for the "excellence of his reconnaissance." Captain Somerset's report has been forwarded to the Director of Intelligence, War Office.

Inspection by His Excellency the Governor of Lagos.

6. On the 7th April the recruits were inspected by His Excellency Lieutenant-Colonel H. E. McCallum, C.M.G., R.E., who expressed on parade his appreciation of the turn-out of the men (strength on parade, 23 Europeans, 444 natives), which were formed into three companies, as follows :—

"A" or Captain Hon. R. Somerset's Company.
"B" „ Guy Fremantle's „
"C" „ P. G. Rigby's „

During our stay at Ibadan recruits came in at the rate of about 60 or 70 a week, of which, perhaps, 50 per cent. were rejected.

Preparations for the march.

7. Whilst waiting for orders, I laid in a supply of yam flour for the men, as I was informed that, whichever route I should be ordered to take, the country could not feed the force I should have with me. I also bought horses for the officers and British non-commissioned officers to ride on the march, and had picked men from each company put through a short course of musketry.

Desertions.

8. The news that we were to leave for the Niger led to a good many desertions, which it was impossible to prevent. The men had been allowed to live in the town, and, although I had put a stop to this as regards the recruits enlisted after our arrival, I was very strongly advised against forcing those already enlisted away from the town and into the barracks. Also the men were frightened by the rumours of trouble with Illorin, started by the men of the detachment 1st Battalion who had been marched two or three marches towards Jebba and then brought back to Ibadan. The desertions during this period numbered 95 in all.

The march to Jebba.

9. On the 27th April orders were received from Colonel Lugard, C.B., D.S.O., by telegraph from Jebba, to march with all Government stores, as quickly as possible to Jebba, and on the 29th, the Battalion (30 Europeans and 461 natives strong) left Ibadan, leaving behind Captain Eden and 3 non-commissioned officers (British) to form a recruiting depôt, and passing through Evoko-Oyo-Ajawa, reached Ogbomosho on the 2nd May.

Here the battalion was halted for a day, and the men marched through the town, and the Head men interviewed. 105 good recruits were obtained here.

[*Note.*—Ogbomosho was the Yoruba war camp against Illorin. and I strongly recommend it as a recruiting depôt for Yorubas, in preference to Ibadan. My reasons for coming to this opinion (together with a sketch of the site selected for the barracks) were submitted by me on arrival at Jebba to the Commissioner and Commandant.]

The march was continued next day, passing Buda Egba, Obanisawa, and round the town of Illorin. [I had received orders that the battalion was not to enter Illorin, and that I was to interview the Emir with reference to the cutting of the telegraph wire and the safety of the telegraph station outside the city wall.] With a small escort I entered the city and had a long and satisfactory interview with the Emir. I then marched the battalion to the banks of the Oyan River, where we halted for the night. Thence the march was continued viâ Ayetoro and Oshado to Jebba, which was reached on the 9th May, and the men and horses crossed over in canoes to the island the same day. Total distance marched, 166 miles, in 10 days' marching.

Although no opposition was expected, the march was conducted throughout as if in an enemy's country, as a training for the men, and I think the distances covered each day speaks well for their powers of marching.

A Frontier Force Order was published by the Commissioner and Commandant, conveying "his appreciation of the rapid and successful manner in which the march from Ibadan was conducted."

Increase of establishment.

10. On arrival at Jebba we were joined by Major Lowry Cole and the remaining officers and British non-commissioned officers of the battalion. They had come from England, viâ Forcados, and up the River Niger.

The making of the camp on Jebba island.

11. Jebba Island at this time consisted only of the Niger Company's factory, and the native village. As the rainy season was coming on, our first work was to house ourselves and the men and horses. Daily working parties were sent out across the river to cut grass and wood, while others cleared and prepared the ground. It was a time of incessant trial for everyone. Parades could not be remitted, as it was possible that we might be required for active service at any moment, so morning and evening saw us on parade; the rest of the day was spent by the men in building their lines and clearing the parade grounds, and by the Europeans in supervising and directing the labour of the men and the hired labour.

Life at Jebba.

12. Our life at Jebba for the first four months consisted of recruiting, drilling, clearing ground, and building. These months

saw a great change in the regiment, and also in the appearance of the island. In June the depôt company joined from Ibadan with 60 good Yoruba recruits, and a fourth company of Yorubas was formed. By the end of August two companies of Hausas had been enlisted, and the battalion consisted of six companies. Three companies had gone through a recruits' course of musketry, and a fourth was being put through. Lines for the men, good grass huts for the officers and British non-commissioned officers, hospitals (native and European), an orderly room, an officers' mess, a non-commissioned officers' mess, and stables for the horses had all been built. Two parade grounds had been cleared and levelled, and we were beginning to play cricket and to hold gymkhanas, with races for the men. A two-section musketry range had been constructed and was in daily use, and the island had been cleaned to a certain extent.

Health of the Europeans.

13. In spite of all the exposure and hard work, this period was not an unhealthy one for the officers and British non-commissioned officers. Two deaths had occurred—Lieutenant Headlam, drowned, and Corporal Wintle from fever. The latter arrived from Lokoja in a bad state of health and died shortly after. There had been no cases of invaliding.

Changes amongst the officers and British non-commissioned officers.

14. But the regiment was short of several officers and British non-commissioned officers from other causes. Major Lowry Cole was on the frontier as commandant of S. Borgu; Major Morland commanded in E. Borgu; Captain and Adjutant Booth had been posted to the Head-Quarter Staff, and Captain Hon. R. Somerset had been appointed Adjutant in his place. Captain Lynch was away recruiting up the Benué, and Captain Welch, Lieutenants Glossop, Blair, Mangles, and Porter, and several British non-commissioned officers were serving in Borgu.

Record of movements.

15. On the 1st of August a permanent camp was formed on the left bank of the river, consisting of three batteries of Artillery and "B" Company of the Battalion and the R.E. Company.

On the 6th August, about 10 p.m., news was received that a disturbance had occurred amongst the troops of the Royal Niger Constabulary at Kiama, and "B" Company was ordered to proceed at once to Fort Goldie to prevent its spreading. At 1 a.m. on the 7th August Captain Fremantle, Lieutenant Buxton, Colour-Sergeant Moran and 60 rank and file with 20 rounds per man left by route march and arrived at Fort Goldie (26 miles) at 1 p.m. the same day. On this march two rivers had to be crossed. It was dark and there were no canoes on the near banks. Lieutenant Buxton swam both rivers and procured canoes, in which the men and horses were transferred across. The remainder of "B" Company followed the next day, and relieved, in accordance with orders, the detachments at Fort Goldie, Kiama, Leaba, Yangbassa, and Boussa, hitherto held by the Royal Niger Constabulary. "B" Company returned to

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Jebba in January 1899, having done good service in the expedition to punish the murderers of Lieutenant Keating and his party.

In September "A" Company proceeded on special service to Illorin, under Captain Somerset, and I was informed by the Commandant that he carried out a delicate mission with great tact, and returned the beginning of November, and on the 25th November "A" Company, under Captain Welch, proceeded up river for duty in E. Borgu.

In October "D" Company proceeded up river under Captain Eden to reinforce the troops in E. Borgu.

On the 5th December Lieutenant Robertson with an escort proceeded to Ogbomosho and returned on the 20th December with 125 recruits.

On the 7th January 1899, Lieutenant Pope-Hennessy returned from the Benué with 70 Hausa recruits, enlisted by Captain Lynch.

On the 12th December Major Lowry Cole returned from duty in S. Borgu and assumed command of the battalion. (I had left a few days previously for England, to take up the appointment of second in command Durham Light Infantry.)

On the 7th February 1899, the regiment commenced its move to Lokoja in relief of the 1st Battalion.

Annual inspection.

16. The annual inspection of the battalion took place at Jebba in January, Colonel Willcocks, C.M.G., D.S.O., the officiating Commissioner and Commandant, expressed himself pleased with everything he saw.

Presentation of Royal Humane Society's medal to Corporal Taylor.

17. At a general parade of the West African Frontier Force on the 23rd January 1899 at Jebba, Corporal W. Taylor, of the 2nd Battalion, was presented with the bronze medal of the Royal Humane Society, for gallantry on the night of the 12th May 1898, when he dived into the River Niger and brought to the surface the body of Lieutenant T. E. Headlam, the river at the time swarming with crocodiles.

Strength of battalion.

18. When I left Jebba the battalion was about 800 strong, and, now that the Hausa recruits from the Benué enlisted by Captain Lynch have arrived, it should be 1,000 strong.

A 7th company was formed in February.

The men.

19. There is a great difference between Hausas "born slaves, the sons of slaves" and those born free. The latter only should be enlisted. The best Yorubas come from the war camps of Ogbomosho and Ikerun; Ibadan men are also good. The men from Oyo (the capital of Yorubaland) are no good as soldiers. Both Hausas and Yorubas are imitative and learn very quickly. They also forget quickly. They are wonderfully amenable to discipline, but they can be easily made discontented and mutinous by an officer who does not listen patiently to what they have got

to say. They are quite satisfied with their officer's decision, however adverse, once they have had their say. If shouted at and bullied they are apt to become cowed and stupid. For this reason I think all officers and British non-commissioned officers require supervision and careful tuition on first arrival in Nigeria; otherwise the results will not be lasting, and men will be unjustly punished through misunderstandings on both sides.

System.

20. My great aim was to create a regimental feeling in the battalion, and to teach the men that they belonged to the same battalion. It must be remembered that Hausas and Yorubas are long-standing rivals, and if they are to live peaceably together in the lines, and to fight side by side, they must be associated together on all possible occasions. From the very beginning, therefore, though only squad drill could be done, all the companies paraded together as a battalion, and a general supervision was exercised over them. This was especially necessary if any uniformity of system of training was to be obtained, when it is considered that the officers and non-commissioned officers came from so many different regiments. As the Company commanders got to know their men, and I was satisfied with their methods of handling them, this supervision was relaxed, and I then told them that I should judge them by the results they obtained. Officers and non-commissioned officers once posted to companies were kept as much as possible with their companies, and even with their sections or squads, but, owing to the exigencies of the climate *i.e.*, sickness, they were (except Company commanders) perforce interchangeable. It had this advantage, however, that the natives got to know all the white men, and they in turn had experience of both Haussa and Yoruba squads. The battalion interpreters attended every parade and all orders were carefully explained to the men, and they were told to go to their officers if there was anything they did not understand.

Musketry instruction.

21. A two-section range was built at Jebba by the labour of the men. Pending the completion of this range the men were exercised at floating targets on the river. These targets were moored at 100 and 200 yards and afterwards at unknown distances. As the impact of each shot on the water was so plainly marked, the men improved very rapidly, and the task of teaching the men to shoot (which I had expected to be a difficult one) was by this means made an easy one. It is an ideal way of teaching recruits and improving the shooting of third-class shots. As soon as the range was finished, the companies were put through the recruits' course laid down in F.F. Orders.

Sanitary arrangements.

22. The early education of natives in sanitary matters leaves much to be desired. As the health of the Europeans depended so much on the Island being kept clean, floating latrines were built at the river's edge and the natives coerced into using them. While not pretending that Jebba Island is yet clean, "Soldier

Town" was a model in this respect when I left. The difference between my first weekly kit inspection and my last was most marked.

Water supply.

23. The preserving the health of the Europeans of the battalion naturally occupied much of my thoughts. A pure water supply was a great difficulty. The drinking water was fetched from the centre of the stream above the Island, and boiled and filtered, but even then it soon became impregnated with germs, and was with difficulty kept pure. Under regimental arrangements a soda-water machine had been brought out (the only one, I believe, in West Africa). This was, of course, too heavy to be marched up from Lagos, and a considerable delay occurred in its coming up the river. Once started, however, my troubles about the drinking water were at an end. The soda water was sold at a nominal sum. The water was filtered and boiled under the supervision of an officer.

Regimental farm.

24. In order to ensure a good supply of fresh meat, a regimental farm and poultry yard was started shortly after our arrival at Jebba. A big yard was fenced in, and a deserted Nupe village enclosed, and the houses used as cattle sheds and the granaries filled with fodder and Guinea corn. The results were most marked. The beef and mutton were both excellent. Sheep doubled their weight in a short time by careful feeding, and the mutton was equal to the "grain fed" mutton of any Indian mutton club. The meat latterly was sold to all corps in the station, the profit being credited to Government. The farm was entirely managed by Captain Hon. R. Somerset, who gave up every moment his other duties permitted to it.

Messing arrangements.

25. Although I knew we were liable to be split up in many detachments, I decided before leaving England on starting an officers' mess and a non-commissioned officers' mess, and made arrangements accordingly. From the day we landed in Africa (at headquarters) all the officers messed together, and all the non-commissioned officers messed together. By having only these two messes, instead of company messes, we were able to keep down prices by the absence of competition, and the officers and non-commissioned officers were kept cheery and made comfortable, which is half the battle of health in West Africa. A complete kit was brought out for each company, but until it was necessary men did not dine alone; moreover, a man who did his work would have had no time to think of housekeeping, and if he had left it to his servant his health would have suffered.

Uniform.

26. Before leaving Jebba I was asked for my views on the future uniform of the W.A.F.F. and I submitted two sketches, one showing the undress and the other the full dress I proposed. The former consisted of a khaki cotton blouse and pants which was made into full dress by the addition of a red Zouave jacket. The objection that cotton was too cold was met by the proposal to issue a flannel shirt. All accoutrements were of brown leather,

pouches to be done away with, and cartridges carried in the belt, and in the head dress (as is done by the French native troops) a red tarbouch with a tassel of the regimental colour, and a kammerbund of the same colour completed the equipment.

27. Before concluding this report I wish to bring to notice the excellent work done by the officers and British non-commissioned officers I had the honour of commanding. I was indeed fortunate in having such a capable, hardworking, cheery body of men under me.

Conclusion.

My special thanks are due to my Adjutants, Captain A. W. Booth, Northumberland Fusiliers, whose promotion to the Staff was a great loss to the regiment, and the late Captain Hon. R. Somerset, Grenadier Guards, whose work was unceasing, and his place will be very hard to fill; and to Captain Guy Fremantle, Coldstream Guards. These officers have already been mentioned in the "London Gazette."

Also to the late Captain A. W. Baker, Durham Light Infantry, who did excellent work recruiting in Kishi and in the training of his company; Captain Lynch, South Lancashire Regiment, whose knowledge of Hausa is unique and who brought us many Hausa recruits; Lieutenant H. M. Blair, Seaforth Highlanders, Assistant Adjutant; Lieutenant L. H. R. Pope-Hennessy, Oxford Light Infantry; Lieutenant R. H. Buxton, Norfolk Regiment; Lieutenant and Acting Quartermaster C. O'Malley, 3rd Middlesex Regiment; to Sergeant-Major F. Walker, Manchester Regiment; O.R. Sergeant C. Thomas, South Wales Borderers; Colour-Sergeant J. C. Heafield, Durham Light Infantry; Sergeant Blair, Northumberland Fusiliers; Corporal W. Munro, Seaforth Highlanders; and Corporal W. Taylor, Scots Guards.

H. S. FITZGERALD, Lieutenant-Colonel,
West African Frontier Force.

Aldershot,
31st March 1899.

LONDON:
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1899.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 289.

NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1898-9.

(For Report for 1897–8, *see* [C. 9124.].)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1900.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
255	Basutoland	1897–98
256	Newfoundland	1896–97
257	Cocos-Keeling and Christmas Islands ..	1898
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259	Bermuda	1898
260	Niger.—West African Frontier Force ...	1897–98
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267	St. Lucia...	,,
268	Fiji	,,
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270	Malta	,,
271	Gold Coast	,,
272	Trinidad...	,,
273	Sierra Leone	,,
274	Ceylon	,,
275	British Solomon Islands	1898–99
276	Gibraltar	1898
277	Bahamas	,,
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279	Mauritius and Rodrigues	,,
280	Grenada	,,
281	St. Vincent	,,
282	Hong Kong	,,
283	Jamaica	1898–99
284	Lagos	1898
285	Seychelles	,,
286	Christmas and Cocos Keeling Islands ...	1899
287	Straits Settlements	1898
288	Basutoland	1898–99

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast...	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.

No. 289.

NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE.

(For Report for 1897-8, *see* [C 9124.].)

COMMISSIONER AND CONSUL-GENERAL SIR R. MOOR to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

H.M. Consulate General,
Old Calabar,
1st October, 1899.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Annual Report for the year 1898-9, which has been prepared in the usual form and in conformity with the information supplied in the Blue Book, which has already been forwarded.

There is nothing to add to the information given in the Report, but I should wish to state that during the year all Officers of the Protectorate, both European and Native, have been diligent and zealous in the discharge of their duties, and that the staff in all directions may be considered able and efficient.

I am, &c.,

R. MOOR,

Commissioner and Consul-General.

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NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE, 1898–9.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE, 1898–9.

REVENUE.

The sources of revenue in the Protectorate are as follows :—

I. Customs Duties on Imports only specific.

II. Postal Revenue.

III. Fees and Fines of Court derivable from—

(*a*) Consular Courts.

(*b*) Native Courts.

IV. Licences, &c.

V. Miscellaneous.

The total revenue for the year under review from all sources amounted to £169,567 18*s.* 11*d.*, of which £160,669 13*s.* 1*d.* was derived from Customs Duties. In addition to the revenue there was a balance from the previous year 1897–98 of £13,159 18*s.* 3½*d.*, making in all £182,727 17*s.* 2½*d.* as the total of balance and receipts. The revenue for 1898–99 shows a considerable increase on that of the previous year 1897–98, amounting to £16,386 10*s.* 10½*d.* The revenue was also in excess of that estimated by £15,567 18*s.* 11*d.*, and this increase and excess are almost entirely due to an abnormal importation of dutiable goods which took place in March, the last month of the year, owing to an apprehension on the part of the mercantile community that a revision of tariff was imminent with a view to an increase of duties. The revenue collected during the month in question amounted to over £23,000, which must be regarded as about £10,000 over the normal. From various causes it is very difficult to arrive at an accurate estimate of the revenue, which on the existing tariff has varied from £112,440 in 1896–97 to £169,567 18*s.* 11*d.* as obtained in 1898–99, but taking an average of the last three years the revenue should approximate to £145,000. This cannot, however, be taken as definitely accurate, for the revenue of 1896–97 was probably something like £30,000 under the normal owing to an enormous importation of dutiable goods, previous to a rise in the tariff, which had taken place in the preceding year 1895. Taking everything into consideration, I am of opinion that there is a sufficiently stable trade in the Protectorate to produce on the existing tariff a revenue of from £155,000 to £160,000 per annum. Judging from past experience

in cases where an opportunity is given for the importation of large quantities of dutiable goods prior to a rise in the tariff, as was the case in 1895, it may be averaged to take at least three years before trade becomes again sufficiently stable to allow of a reasonably accurate estimate of revenue to be arrived at.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure for the year amounted to £146,751 17*s.* 1½*d.* as against balance and receipts of £182,727 17*s.* 2½*d.*, thus showing an excess of balance and receipts over expenditure of £35,976 0*s.* 1*d.*

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The statement of assets and liabilities on the 31st March 1899 shows an excess of the former amounting to £58,469 2*s.* 8*d.*, made up as follows :—

Assets.

	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
I. Cash balances in local chests and with Crown Agents.	19,198	12	10			
II. Cash on deposit ...	22,111	10	1			
III. Remittance in transit and uncollected.	18,024	12	4			
IV. Advances due to the Protectorate.	3,297	10	5			
V. "Ivy" Depreciation Fund.	3,158	5	4			
Total Assets				65,790	11	0

Liabilities.

	£	*s.*	*d.*			
I. Deposit	7,232	5	5			
II. Drafts drawn and unpaid	89	2	11			
Deduct Total Liabilities				7,321	8	4
Excess of Assets over Liabilities ...				£58,469	2	8

NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE, 1898–9.

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE.

In the following statement which shows the balance, revenue and expenditure, it will be observed that the expenditure under Political and Administrative amounts to £18,246 2*s.* 5*d.* This shows a considerable increase as against the expenditure under the same head in the previous year, which amounted to £15,912 16*s.* 10*d.* It is due to the extra staff necessary for the administration of Benin City Territories, and also to an increase in the staff in other directions necessitated by the large area under Government control.

The amount expended on the Niger Coast Protectorate Force amounts to £21,372 11*s.* 2*d.*, the expenditure in the previous year having been £16,738 12*s.* 10*d.* This increase is due to an augmentation in the establishment of the force which from 450 men was increased to 550, the enlarged area of territory which has been brought under control requiring this increase.

The expenditure in the Marine Department amounts to £22,097 6*s.* 4½*d.*, that in the previous year having been £18,490 14*s.* The increase is heavy, but is accounted for by the purchase of two new launches during the year, and the necessity for placing the Marine Department on a thoroughly sound footing and providing effective workshops for carrying out repairs to the yacht, launches, lighters, boats, &c. Almost the entire transport of the Protectorate is carried out by this department, the territories being, fortunately for matters of transport, intersected in all directions by rivers and creeks, for the navigation and controlling of which it is necessary to have a considerable number of launches. A Government yacht is necessary for the purpose of sea transport, and she can not only call at the maritime stations of the Protectorate, but owing to her capacity and construction is able to carry out the entire transport to many stations from 15 to 40 miles inland. To place this department on a thoroughly efficient footing the annual expenditure will require to be further increased by between two and three thousand pounds per annum for the next few years, to provide the necessary craft, workshop material, &c., for the establishment, after which the expenses of actually carrying on may possibly be reduced.

The Medical Department shows an expenditure of £10,129 11*s.* 3*d.* as against an expenditure in the previous year of £7,112 17*s.* 1*d.* The increase here is also large, and is due to increased staff necessitated by extra stations and expense incurred in improved sanitary arrangements for both Europeans and natives, which, from the medical report for the year, may be considered to have already had good results as regards health.

The miscellaneous expenditure amounts to £9,346 9*s.* 10*d.* as against the expenditure in the previous year of £15,451 3*s.* 10*d.*

The decrease here is very considerable: not that there has been an actual decreased expenditure but that the classification has been better arranged in the Treasury Department.

In the Public Works Department the expenditure under Surveyor-General was £3,437 3*s.* as against £3,010 0*s.* 7*d.* in the previous year. The increase is entirely owing to the additions to the staff which have been imperative to carry out the necessary work. Under Public Works Recurrent the amount shown is £5,565 0*s.* 5*d.* as against the previous year's £3,382 5*s.* 11*d.* The explanation of this is that the premises in the Protectorate from year to year increase, and the cost of current repairs is consequently annually augmented. Further, the houses originally erected in the Protectorate, which are all of them wood and iron, require more repairs every year, the class of house not being a durable one in this climate, though its first cost is cheaper and it can be more quickly erected than solid buildings. At the same time I should never again be in favour of erecting any buildings of this class unless for purely temporary purposes, when they can be run up quickly and cheaply. The Public Works Extraordinary shows an expenditure of £14,406 12*s.* 4½*d.* against that of the previous year of £5,627 9*s.* 11*d.* This is consequent on the large increase necessitated for extra buildings, &c., as the control of Government is extended over the country and the requisites of sound administration are provided.

STATEMENT of the BALANCE, REVENUE and EXPENDITURE, for the YEAR 1898-99.

No.	Heads of Revenue.	£	s.	d.	Amount. £	s.	d.
	Balance on 1st April 1898				13,159	18	3½
1	Customs Duties ...	160,669	13	1			
2	Licences, &c. ...	656	16	8			
3	Fees, &c.	3,719	5	9			
4	Postal Revenue ...	1,688	12	0			
5	Miscellaneous ...	2,833	11	5			
					169,567	18	11
	Total including Balance ...				182,727	17	2½

No.	Heads of Expenditure.	Amount. £	s.	d.
1	Pensions	1,630	0	0
2	Commissioner and Consul-General ...	3,984	18	10
3	Secretary's Department	41	18	11
4	Political and Administrative	18,246	2	5
5	Judicial	834	10	6
6	Treasury	2,400	7	4
7	Customs	6,478	12	10
8	Post Office	3,053	13	6
9	Printing	1,231	11	11
10	Audit	785	6	2
11	Niger Coast Protectorate Force ...	21,372	11	2
12	Marine	22,097	6	4½
13	Prisons	6,038	4	11
14	Botanical	1,255	4	11
15	Medical	10,129	11	3
16	Sanitary	1,140	1	3
17	Transport	6,161	8	5½
18	Aborigines	7,115	0	9
19	Miscellaneous	9,346	9	10
20	Public Works Department :—			
	(*a*) Surveyor-General	3,437	3	0
	(*b*) Public Works Recurrent ...	5,565	0	5
	(*c*) Public Works Extraordinary ...	14,406	12	4½
	Total Expenditure	146,751	17	1½
	Balance by above account ...	35,976	0	1
		182,727	17	2½

LEGISLATION—LAWS AND PROCLAMATIONS, &c.

During the year there has been no legislation either in the form of law or proclamation, the energy of the Legal Department having been given more particularly to proper organization of the Consular and Native Courts throughout the territories, in order to render the administration of justice generally more effective.

There are in the territories eight Consular Courts administering justice under the Africa Order in Council and the Ordinances and Queen's Regulations therewith incorporated, and during the year 486 criminal cases have been dealt with in these Courts, resulting in 349 convictions. The corresponding figures for the previous year 1897–98 are 655 cases dealt with, resulting in 545 convictions. The difference in these figures tends to show that there is satisfactory improvement among the people who are subject to the jurisdiction of these Courts, which does not include the actual natives of the Protectorate. These, however, when consenting parties, can be dealt with in the Consular Courts, but are in most instances dealt with in the Native Courts. Offences against property accounted for 179 convictions as against 259 for the last year, and further improvement in this direction may be noted in the fact that no cases of prædial larceny have been reported. With two or three exceptions the offences against property were simple larceny and were of such nature as to merit short sentences of imprisonment. The convictions for offences against the person showed a noticeable decrease in the year under report, the total being 85 as against 131 for the previous year. The convictions for other offences, few of which were of a serious nature, amounted to 85 as against 153 for the previous year. It is a noticeable fact that although most of these Courts have been in existence for several years the number of previous convictions is remarkably low.

On the civil side the work of the Courts shows 338 cases, nearly all of them being *claims for debt*; *and there would appear to be* a considerable improvement in this direction also, for in last year's report returns from five Courts only were given and the number of suits amounted to 355. It is found that the Courts are effective on the civil side, and that the judgments are carried out with very little difficulty. In only four instances has it been found necessary to commit a judgment debtor to prison for fraud or for neglect to obey the order of the Court—a very low figure considering the number of claims for the year and the system of trade practised in the territories.

Throughout the territories there are 23 Native Councils and minor Courts for the administration of justice, of which the organization has been revised during the year under report by the Judicial Officer, and they have been placed on a sounder footing for the carrying out of the work entrusted to them. A very large number of cases, both criminal and civil, are dealt with in these Courts, which under the direction of the Judicial Officer are

NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE, 1898–9.

immediately supervised by the district officers. A proper system of record and book keeping has been arranged, from which it is hoped that in future years a fairly accurate return of the work done may be obtained. There can be no doubt that these Courts are of immense value, not only in rendering very material assistance to the administration in the control of the territories, but in providing the means of instructing the chiefs of the people in the proper methods of government and the administration of justice. Not only are they engaged in direct judicial work, but the Native Councils as distinct from the native minor Courts are allowed and encouraged to make necessary native laws affecting the tribes which they represent and over which they have control. All these Councils and Courts have practically the control of their own funds under the supervision, of course, of European officers; and the expenditure of these funds for the general advantage of the country and people provides an object lesson in civilized administration. By this means Court houses are erected for the administering of justice and good roads made from village to village, and other works of general public utility carried out. It is anticipated that the value of the work done by these Courts will greatly increase in future years, and if proper attention be paid to their organization and control they will relieve the European officials of a large amount of labour, and indeed carry out work of administration and control which otherwise in all probability could not be coped with.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

European Population.

The European population in the territories throughout the year averaged 227 persons, being 204 male and 23 female, an increase of 21 on that shown last year. The number of cases treated by the medical officers of the Protectorate amounted to 1,078, resulting in 14 deaths and 43 patients being invalided. This gives a death rate of 61·6 per thousand and an invaliding rate of 189·4 per thousand. It is interesting and perhaps instructive to compare the figures for the last three years :—

Date.	Number of Europeans.	Number of Deaths.	Rate per 1,000.	Number Invalided.	Rate per 1,000.
1896–97 ...	214	21	98·13	35	163·5
1897–98 ...	206	15	72	58	281
1898–99 ...	227	14	61·6	43	189·4

In drawing conclusions from the above figures it should be noted that there was a heavy increase in the death rate in the first year (1896–97), amounting to 9·8 per thousand over that of the previous year. Eliminating this increase from the death rate of that year, it will be observed that the rate is a steadily decreasing one; and regarding the figures with reference to invaliding it will be seen that there is a decided general tendency to increase. It may be concluded from the figures that judicious invaliding at the right moment certainly tends to decrease the death rate, and gives satisfactory results in that such invaliding and sending the patients to Europe to recruit has resulted in recovery in nearly every case. The decrease in the death rate may be attributed to a great extent to the improvement of the conditions under which the Europeans now live, the greater attention given to general sanitation, and (probably) to the general improvement in the methods of treatment of tropical diseases, judging by the statistical returns. Among the stations of the Protectorate, Sapele still maintains its unenviable eminence as being the most unhealthy. With a European population averaging 14, there have been 119 cases of sickness, which would allow each European at the station to have been in the hands of the medical officers between eight and nine times during the year. There have been five deaths and eight cases of invaliding, which totalled would appear effectually to dispose of all but one of the average European population within a year. The death rate shows 214·2 per thousand, which it is satisfactory to note is a decrease on that of last year which was 226 per thousand. This gives ground for slight satisfaction, and I anticipate that in next year's report much better results will be shown, as improvements have been made which it is hoped will appreciably affect the general health at the station.

Natives.

The total number of cases treated among the natives during the year amounted to 11,868, resulting in 51 deaths, 21 cases of invaliding, and a death rate of 4·2 per thousand among those treated. The death rate compares favourably with that of the two preceding years, which were respectively 7·2 and 6·2 per thousand; but this would be accounted for to a considerable extent by the fact that in both these years there was a severe epidemic of small-pox in the Protectorate, and that in the year now under review there has been little or no small-pox. The number of cases treated during the last three years has averaged about the same: over 11 and under 12 per thousand. The figures may, I think, be taken as giving satisfactory results from the work done.

The official returns show that there have been during the year 3,840 cases of successful vaccination of natives, but it would appear that this does not at all represent the number of vaccinations that have taken place, successfully and otherwise, as

NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE, 1898–9.

thousands of arm to arm inoculations are performed by the natives themselves of which no record can be obtained. The figures on actual official record do not appear satisfactory when the great importance of taking steps for the prevention of small-pox in this country is considered. This disease is a most terrible scourge throughout the territories; and when epidemics occur inland the natives die by thousands, all general intercourse among the tribes is stopped, civilizing influences make a retrograde movement, and trade suffers very considerably. In these circumstances it is of the utmost importance that a systematic attempt should be made to carry out vaccination even should it necessitate the engagement of extra medical officers specially detailed for the work.

I see that in last year's report (which was made by Major Gallwey) the importance of most searching medical examination of candidates for service in this climate is pointed out. Giving a personal opinion on this subject, I have observed that the men who stand this climate best are those of the fair type and having sound teeth; given, of course, fair physique and that they be over 22 years of age. This may perhaps appear to be encroaching on the domain of the medical men, but I merely note it as a fact, the result of careful observation and personal experience.

EDUCATION.

The question of education in the territories has during the past year been in abeyance owing to many circumstances, the principal being the changes which will be necessitated in the local administrations when the administration of the territories now under the Royal Niger Company is directly taken over by Her Majesty's Government.

The grants to Mission Schools during the year amounted to £1,047 1*s.* 5*d.*, the principal of which was paid to the Presbyterian Mission Training Institute at Old Calabar, where there are natives from all quarters of the Protectorate undergoing education. There is a special grant made, amounting to £200, exclusively for industrial training at this Institute, and the other portion of the grant is made specifically for the pupils placed there by the Government for education, numbering 27, the entire number at the Institute being 479. The full amount of grant to the Mission during the year amounted roughly to £600.

The Baptist Mission School at Kwo Ibo received during the year, for the purpose of industrial education, a grant amounting to about £120.

The Niger Delta Pastorate connected with the Church Missionary Society received educational and industrial grants amounting to about £200, and the Church Missionary Society's School at Brass received, for the purpose of industrial training only, a grant amounting to about £120.

The grants made annually have hitherto been more particularly for assistance in starting the schools and placing them on a sound footing. There has, of course, been to a certain extent supervision of the expenditure of these grants, but it is important that in future years there should be more direct supervision by an Inspector of Schools under an Educational Board, in order that the grants may be in future apportioned in accordance with results.

CURRENCY, BANKING, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

It is noticed that to some extent, but in portions only of the territories, cash currency is making headway, more particularly in those portions where there is no existing currency; but it has also made slight headway in districts where brass rods, copper wire, and manilla currency are in use between the natives for transactions among themselves.

With regard to banking there will not, I think, be an opening in these territories for many years, unless action is taken with regard to the currency question; but were such action taken there can be little doubt that within the course of one or two years there would be such an opening for the establishment of branch banks with a fair chance of the business being remunerative, and it is needless to point out that such establishment would give a great impetus to business and meet the requirements of trade in many directions which are now hampered by the want of banking facilities.

The advisability of introducing an uniform standard of weights and measures has been under consideration, but action in the matter has been delayed owing to the anticipated changes in the Administrations, as it is advisable that the laws on the subject should be the same throughout the entire territories, including the Colony of Lagos and the Royal Niger Company's territories and those of this Protectorate.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, *including* SHIPPING.

The statistical tables detailed below accompanying this Report give the particulars with reference to the imports and exports for the year 1898-99, viz :—

Table A.—Return of dutiable imports.*

Table B.—Return of free imports.*

Table C.—Return of exports.*

Table D.—Comparative statement of imports, exports, and duties collected.

* Not printed.

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Table E.—Return showing the value of imports from, and exports to, the United Kingdom and other countries.

Table F.—Return of shipping for each district.

Table G.—General shipping return.

Referring to Table A, it will be observed that the value of dutiable imports amounted to £185,301 19*s.* 1*d.*, which is an excess in value of similar imports for the previous year of £24,601 19*s.* 9*d.* The free imports as shown on Table B amounted in value to £547,337 19*s.* 4*d.*, being an increase of £68,389 1*s.* 1*d.* as compared with the previous year. The most important items in which there was an increase were bags and sacks, beads, beef and pork, building materials, cotton goods, provisions, rice, silk goods, wearing apparel, and woollen goods. The most noticeable increase was in cotton goods, the increase in value amounting to £41,885 1*s.* 2*d.*, and in silk goods there was an increase of £7,446 3*s.* 6*d.*, in wearing apparel £6,462 18*s.*, and in woollen goods very nearly £2,000.

Taking Tables A and B, it will be seen that the total imports, dutiable and free, amounted to £732,639 18*s.* 5*d.* as against that shown in the previous year amounting to £639,698 12*s.* 7*d.*, which gives an increase in the year under review of £92,941 5*s.* 10*d.*

Dealing further with the question of imports and referring to Table E, it will be seen that the total value of imports from the United Kingdom was £583,067 4*s.* 5*d.*, or 79·6 per cent. of the entire imports, being practically the same percentage as in the previous year. This shows an increase on the figures of last year of £78,264 12*s.* 10*d.*

The imports from foreign countries amounted to in the case of Germany, £51,330 16*s.* 8*d.*, as against £49,206 14*s.* 4*d.* in the previous year, and in the case of Holland £77,240 14*s.* 7*d.*, as against £60,986 6*s.* 5*d.* in the previous year. Imports from other countries valued £20,837 14*s.* 8*d.*, as against £24,655 2*s.* 9*d.* in the previous year, thus showing a decrease of £3,817 8*s.* 1*d.*

Dealing with exports, it will be seen from Table C that the total value in this year 1898–99 amounted to £774,647 19*s.* 9*d.*, as against £750,223 8*s.* 11*d.* in the previous year, thus showing an increase of £24,424 10*s.* 10*d.* Of this, the total of native products was £771,066 3*s.* 9*d.*, or £25,123 14*s.* 11*d.* in excess of that for the previous year, among which may be noted the following:—palm kernels £305,791 8*s.*, as against the previous year £295,544 17*s.* 5*d.*, and rubber £60,607 17*s.* 9*d.*, as against the previous year £32,959 17*s.* 2*d.*; but on the other hand there is a considerable decrease in the value of palm oil, the value of which amounts to £397,869 10*s.* 10*d.*, as against £410,133 11*s.* 5*d.* in the previous year.

The value of exports to the United Kingdom amounted to £500,367 15*s.* 8*d.*, as against £497,589 1*s.* 9*d.* in the previous year. This gives a proportion of 64·6 per cent. of the entire exports exported to the United Kingdom as compared with the proportion of 66·3 per cent. in the previous year, showing a slight falling off in proportion.

The total value of trade imports and exports amounted to £1,507,287 18*s.* 2*d.*, as against that of the previous year £1,389,922 1*s.* 6*d.*, thus showing an increase of £117,365 16*s.* 8*d.*

The Customs revenue for the year amounted to £160,752 15*s.* 7*d.*, as against that of the previous year £145,541 16*s.* 11*d.*, being an increase of £15,210 18*s.* 8*d.*

The shipping returns show in Tables F and G 379 ships entered and 375 cleared, as against the figures 342 and 340 respectively in the previous year.

The volume of trade, as before stated, amounted in value to £1,507,287 odd, out of which £1,457,340 or 96·6 per cent. was carried in British vessels, leaving a balance of only £49,947 conveyed in foreign vessels.

In my Annual Report for the year 1896–97, I stated, "It will take about two years from the year of this Report for trade in spirits to reach a normal state in the interior markets," and I am of opinion that only in the year under report has that trade arrived at its normal state. This remark might have been applied generally to dutiable goods, as in the latter end of 1895 there was a revision of the tariff affecting the principal dutiable imports; but "spirits" were mentioned, as of the few specific articles on which duty is charged, they give, the largest return. In the year under review the revenue derived from wine, beer, and spirits generally amounted to £132,853 18*s.* 6*d.* It may be interesting to examine critically the figures of dutiable and free imports for the last seven years, taking into consideration the duties chargeable on spirits at the time; though I fear, the periods between the changes of duty are too short to admit of absolutely reliable conclusions being drawn. Taking the four years 1892 to 1896, the average annual import of dutiable articles approximated in value to £260,000, and during this period the duty on spirits was 1*s.* per gallon. During the period from 1896 to 1899, three years, when the duty on spirits had been raised to 2*s.* per gallon, the value of the dutiable goods imported approximated to £160,000. It may be taken for granted that this falling off in the value of dutiable goods imported was principally a falling off in the import of spirits, if not entirely so. Taking the free imports for the same periods, it is seen that the figures show approximate values of £525,000 and £516,000 respectively. From this it will be gathered that the imposition of duties or raising of tariff has not appreciably affected the import of free goods, but that the import of dutiable goods has been reduced in value by 38·4 per cent. in consequence of a rise in tariff. These are only

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facts as shown by figures, but little or nothing can be deduced from them, except that raising the tariff tends to decrease the import of dutiable goods. The circumstances of production are somewhat peculiar in these territories, and (as I have already pointed out) it takes some years after a rise in the tariff before the producing markets attain to an equilibrium and normal state of production. There seems but one fact to be gathered from the figures when examined critically in detail, which is that the imposition of extra duties or the raising of the existing tariff, particularly on spirits, cannot be looked to to give an immediate return of much consequence, but that it takes two or three years before any such return can be calculated on with certainty.

As regards the class of goods imported I am still of opinion that there is not sufficient diversity, and also that the representatives of the firms carrying on business in the territories do not take the necessary steps to ascertain the requirements of the actual producers, or the class of goods that would be the most acceptable in the producing markets, and would further be such as to provide stronger inducement to the actual producers to carry on the work of production to its utmost limits. It would be of considerable advantage to trade were the firms to employ travelling agents to work in the actual producing markets with a small supply of samples, not to do actual peddling work, but merely to ascertain the requirements and the classes of goods that are the most suitable for trading purposes. The native middlemen themselves are not at all enterprising in this direction, and will not sufficiently vary the class of goods which they take to the producing markets; consequently, there is little or no variety introduced into the trade. These native middlemen, who are merely carriers as between the producing markets and the European merchants, avoid the risk of taking the more fragile class of goods to the markets, and make no effort whatever to push the trade, merely relying upon the old staple commodities which have been in the interior markets for many years. The Yoruba middlemen traders are far better in this matter, as they have the real instinct of traders and show energy in introducing and pushing all classes of goods into the interior markets. There is practically a revolution in the trade now going on in the Protectorate; the old native middlemen, the chiefs (who were large traders), are no longer enabled to carry on their business by enforced slave labour, and the "boys" of the various houses are looking to receive directly themselves some return for their work; with the natural result that the big houses are breaking up and the "boys" are carrying on in their own interests the bulk of trade. This is not the case in all portions of the territories, but is more particularly so in the eastern and western divisions. In the central division steps have lately been taken to ensure to the "boys," the actual workers, a personal and direct return for their labours, at the same time providing a fair return to the chiefs and heads of houses, so that the systems of

native administration may be carried on. With these changes taking place there is, of course, a great opportunity for foreign native traders to come into the Protectorate and do successful business, and this has been fully represented to the Yorubas of the Colony of Lagos. A system of more direct Government control of the industries of production and trade generally is also being inaugurated.

As regards the quality of the goods imported, I must again advance the opinion that a stable trade will never be established by the import of rubbish into these territories. The only means of establishing such a trade is by studying the requirements of the natives and introducing a good class of material, both to meet such requirements and for the purpose of opening up business in new classes of goods. There is undoubtedly still room for improvement in the class of goods imported, and it is only lately that in the districts of the western division the warning given in this direction has proved true, and it has been found that the rubbishy goods imported were only forced upon the producers by the middlemen, not really being such articles as they required. This has been discovered as the result of the actual producers bringing their produce direct to the European merchants, and in consequence there will in all probability be considerable loss to some of the firms, in that they will not be able to dispose of some of the goods of inferior quality which they have in hand, except at heavy loss. In urging the merchants to introduce a more diversified class of goods and goods of a better quality, I do not lose sight of the fact that it is the duty of the Government to raise the standard of life among the natives, which can only be done by education and continuous intercourse, and must, of course, result in greatly enlarged demands in the variety of the class of goods imported; but it is unfortunately, for the present, impossible to do as much as would be desirable in this direction, more particularly as regards education, for all the energy and revenue available are required to open up and pacify the country and render life and property secure. I fear, however, that no matter how strenuous the action of the Government and of the commercial community may be, there cannot be any large expansion of trade in districts where there exists the native currency of brass rods, copper wires, and manillas, until it is replaced by a cash currency. The incubus of the native currency in use, of which 30*s.* is a load for a man, is sufficient of itself to stifle any expansion of trade when one takes into consideration the difficulties of transport in the territories.

GAOLS AND PRISONERS, *including* CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

During the year a new prison has been established at Benin City with accommodation for about 100 prisoners in grouped cells which, with the existing prisons at Old Calabar, Degema and Sapele gives accommodation for about 400 prisoners. In

addition to this there are lockups at Bonny, Opobo, Warri, and Brass. A substantial brick building was commenced during the year and is still in course of erection at Old Calabar, which is planned on an approved system with all necessary accommodation for a complete prison staff, male and female, and accommodation for about 150 prisoners. It is anticipated that the building will be completed in the course of about eighteen months from the end of the year under review. The completion of the prison at Benin City will in all probability make it possible to do away with the existing temporary prison at Sapele, which in future will only be used as a lockup.

At the commencement of the year there were in the various prisons and lockups 222 prisoners, including convicted prisoners and prisoners awaiting trial. During the year there were received into the prisons 1,226 prisoners, being 900 adult males, 20 adult females, and 226 juvenile offenders. Of this number 763 were convicted of sundry offences and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. Among those convicted it was found that there were 21 against whom there was one previous conviction, 9 against whom there were two previous convictions, and 3 against whom there were three previous convictions. The duration of the sentences on conviction was as follows :—

In 65 cases for five years or more.

In 173 cases for one year or more, but less than five years.

In 238 cases for more than three months and less than one year.

In 287 cases for three months or less.

Of the total number of prisoners received into the gaols during the year 463 were discharged unconvicted. The daily average in the prisons was 265 prisoners, and the daily average on the sick list amounted to 21. There were 129 cases admitted to hospitals, of which 10 resulted in death, the remainder being discharged cured. The number of prisoners in all prisons on the 31st March, 1899, was 299. The foregoing figures cannot be compared with those given under the head of Legislation, Laws and Proclamations, which are only the returns of cases tried in the Consular Courts, whereas the prison returns include a large number of prisoners sentenced by the native Courts sitting under the presidency of the District Commissioners, where trial has been entirely by native law and custom.

The value of prison labour is estimated at about £1,830. which amount is probably somewhat in excess of its actual value.

It will be seen by reference to the revenue and expenditure returns, that the expenditure on prisons during the year amounted to £6,038 4*s.* 11*d.*, which includes the entire cost of what is

practically the civil police of the Protectorate, consisting of 7 sergeants, 7 corporals, 7 lance-corporals, and 90 privates, known as "Court Messengers," in addition to the actual prison staff of 1 gaoler, 1 prison clerk, and 1 clerk and storekeeper at head-quarters, 3 keepers of prison at the outlying prisons, 1 chief warder and 2 2nd class warders. The European staff of 1 officer in charge of prison discipline and an allowance to substitute is also included.

The court messengers do all the minor work of the prison department as warders, &c., and also act as the messengers of the consular courts in serving summonses, executing warrants, &c., and some of them are detailed for duty in the various departments as orderly messengers. Considering the court work done, inclusive of an enormous amount of enquiry and "palaver," of which no return can be made, and the number of prisoners dealt with by this staff, the expenditure cannot be considered excessive.

HOSPITALS, *including* MEDICAL AND SANITARY.

The annual returns of the European hospital for the year show that 74 cases were treated, of which 65 were males and nine females, resulting in five deaths of males, six males and one female invalided, 54 males and eight females discharged cured. This gives a death rate of 6·5 per cent. on the cases treated. Two of the deaths were due to hyperpyrexia, one to blackwater fever, one to bilious fever, and one to pneumonia.

The nursing staff consists of three nurses, who at the commencement of the year were taken over by the Government in place of being supplied by the Presbyterian Mission as formerly. This arrangement has given every satisfaction both to the nurses themselves, to the Principal Medical Officer, and to the medical staff having charge of the hospital. The nursing staff have in the present year under review shown the same ability and devotion to duty as formerly.

During the year the St. Margaret native hospital was opened. It is a substantial brick building, constructed on the latest hygienic principles, and consists at present of one wing only and necessary offices. This wing contains a general ward for males with 18 beds, a female ward with three beds, and a private ward with four beds. The wing was only opened in August 1898, and there is no separate record of the native cases treated in this wing since that date, all cases of natives treated during the year having been included in one return; but it has been found that since the opening of the hospital the death rate of natives in the hospital has fallen from 33 per cent. to 14 per cent., which is satisfactory to note. It has been possible, besides the ordinary medical cases, to perform major operations, many of which have been carried out with success, as a proper operating ward is provided. It will

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be necessary for the accommodation of patients to build the other wing of the hospital as soon as possible, and also to construct an observation ward, which is urgently required; and I propose making provision for these buildings in the estimates for 1900–1901.

It is satisfactory to note that the contagious diseases hospitals at Old Calabar and all the out stations have not been used to any great extent during the year, as there has been no serious outbreak of small-pox or other contagious or infectious disease, though at head-quarters in January 1899 an epidemic of chicken-pox broke out on the Government yacht, and was not stamped out until 40 cases had been dealt with. It is possible that the vaccination carried out by the medical officers, and passed on by the natives themselves, may be having some effect in preventing small-pox in the more controlled areas, but there is still a large extent of territory in which it has not yet been possible to carry out such work, and the insanitary and filthy state of the native villages will always encourage this disease to take epidemic form on cases occurring, until vaccination can be carried out throughout the entire territories.

It has been possible to pay more attention to sanitary conditions during the year under review, and the decrease in death rate must be regarded as due to this. There can be little doubt that the strict observance of sanitary rules would result in a better general state of health among the Europeans resident in the territories.

Generally it may be taken that the sanitary condition of the European settlements and premises is fairly satisfactory, and the native towns and villages in their vicinity are also kept in fair condition, but the utmost difficulty is experienced in inducing natives in distant towns and villages in some directions to keep them clean. In other directions one is often surprised at the cleanly and sanitary state in which the towns are kept.

In all the European settlements there are properly enclosed and well kept European cemeteries. In the vicinity of all large towns and villages directly controlled proper native burial grounds are established and fenced in; and in all directions now generally visited the natives are compelled to bury the dead in a proper manner, in place of throwing the bodies into the bush or into the river as was formerly the case.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The only station where such observations are taken is Old Calabar. The returns show that during the year there were 43 days on which the cold dry harmattan winds blew, 51 days when tornadoes occurred, and that the rainfall amounted in the year to

129·24 inches. The mean maximum temperature during the hot season was not exceptionally high, being 91·6 degrees, and the mean minimum temperature during the year was 76·9. The weather generally experienced during the year was not such as to be exceptionally trying either to Europeans or natives.

POSTAL.

The postal service shows a considerable increase in the receipt and despatch of letters, &c. to and from the Protectorate, the total dealt with during the year being 242,620, being an excess over the number dealt with during last year of 45,279. Letters and parcels despatched show an increase of 23,264, while those received show an increase of 22,919. This is largely due to the introduction of the penny postage and reduced parcel rate.

The money order branch of the Post Office has worked satisfactorily during the year and the returns show that the total number of orders issued was 1,736, of a value of £5,867 2*s*. 3*d*., the total commission charged thereon being £75 18*s*. The total number of orders paid was 317, of a value £787 4*s*. 8*d*. This shows a considerable increase over that of last year, when the total number of orders issued was 1,027 of a value of £3,731 8*s*. 7*d*., the total commission charged being £47 8*s*. 9*d*. while the number of orders paid was 134, of a value of £383 14*s*. 3*d*. It is anticipated that there will be considerable increase in this branch of postal work in coming years and its establishment has undoubtedly met a long felt want in giving facility for the despatch of money with safety, there being no banking facilities whatever in the Protectorate. The total revenue derived from the postal department during the year was as follows :—

	£	*s*.	*d*.
Sale of postage stamps, &c. ...	1,584	3	7
Unpaid letters, &c...	17	12	1
Money order commissions... ...	50	9	7
Sale of postal guide	1	7	·0
Total ...	£1,653	12	3

as against £1,458 11*s*. 3*d*. in the previous year. The cost of the Post Office as shown in the revenue and expenditure return was £3,053 13*s*. 6*d*., so that the revenue derived from the postal department provides a little more than 50 per cent. of the actual cost.

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OPENING UP NEW TERRITORIES AND JOURNEYS IN THE INTERIOR.

In April 1898 an expedition was sent into the territories on the left bank of the Opobo river starting from Essene, proceeding thence to Azumini, Ohumbela, and Akwetta, in which direction the natives were found to be friendly though very wild. From Akwetta the party proceeded to Okrika through territory which had been visited before. Through the whole of this portion of the journey courts for the settlement of all difficulties were held in all the towns passed through, and most of the native business dealt with. On arrival at Okrika it was found that the trade had been stopped, and that difficulties were being caused by Chief Wagu of Omokoroshi, to whom messengers were sent requesting him to attend a meeting to settle the "palavers" of Okrikans and others against him. All overtures failed to induce this chief to attend, and the messengers were only met by threats and defiance, so it was found necessary to undertake operations against him. When the force reached the town of Omokoroshi it was found that stockades and rifle pits had been constructed and the usual native defences made; but (as usual), as soon as the defenders were driven from the rifle pits and stockades, all organization was broken up and they were soon compelled to surrender. The effect of this was to open up all the roads at the back of Okrika into the interior and to enable the officials of the Government to visit the interior tribes, who are now able to bring their produce direct to the carriers or middlemen markets. The people of Omokoroshi and the surrounding neighbourhood are now friendly, and have been allowed to reconstruct their town in a locality close to the old one.

Early in the present year, as the Ekoi country within the sweep of the Cross River required visiting, and owing to difficulties on the German boundary, I found it advisable to send a small party under Mr. District Commissioner Whitehouse to visit all the towns along the German boundary, proceeding to the Cross River, and downward as far as Ododobo, and then returning on the western side of the Ekoi country. The natives throughout the whole of this country are friendly, and no difficulties were experienced.

In February and March last an expedition was organized and despatched to pacify the Qua country lying on and about the Kwo Ibo River, extending on the left bank practically to Cross River and on the right to the Opobo River. The natives of this territory have for many years been found exceedingly unruly and opposed to the Government. They have also on many occasions prevented the Government officials penetrating into their country, where it is well known that many evil practices, such as human sacrifice, murder of twin children, and trial by ordeal, are still carried on. These natives have not only

been excessively turbulent, but aggressive and dangerous to the trading establishment in Kwo Ibo River for many years past. The resources of the Administration did not, however, admit of the difficulties being dealt with earlier, as, although expeditionary and punitive work might have been carried out, the force at the disposal of the Administration would not have admitted of the necessary garrison being supplied after such operations. It was therefore for many years found advisable to temporise, providing merely for the safety of the Europeans in the district, and maintaining such a pacific state as would admit of trade being carried on. The expedition was successfully carried out between the 4th February and the 15th March last, and effective Government control was established throughout the territories. Unfortunately the Quas were found to be actively hostile, and were supported, to some extent, by the Inokuns, with the result that considerable fighting took place and 19 towns were destroyed. The effect of this action was that 175 towns and villages came in and submitted to the Government, about 1,000 guns were surrendered and destroyed, and 9,000 guns were brought in and stamped in accordance with the Arms Ordinance of 1894. It may be taken for granted that Government control is now established between the Kwo Ibo and Opobo Rivers, as far north as the Qua country extends, and also over a considerable portion of the Qua country on the left bank of the Kwo Ibo River towards the Cross River. Detachments of troops have been stationed at Eket, on the Kwo Ibo River, and Azumini on the creek of that name flowing into the Opobo River, to maintain and firmly establish the control.

There were no further very extended journeys or operations of a serious nature during the year, but the divisional and district officers, together with the officers of the force, have been continually on the move as the season permitted throughout those portions of the territory where administrative control has been established, and steady advance has been made in maintaining the prestige and control of the Government, and perfecting the systems introduced for the combined European and native administration of the territories. The influence of Government has been extended as far as the resources admitted, but such work is necessarily slow, for it has to be carried out with due regard to maintaining the existing trade; and in all advances made administrative and military posts have to be established, which necessitates an increase in the political staff and force.

It is a matter of some interest that after the expedition in the Qua country bordering on the Aro country, in which latter the centre of "Long JuJu" is established, 136 refugees who had proceeded from their country to the west of the Niger about Asseh and Abo, fled to the Government for protection, and have

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since been sent back to their country. The "Long JuJu" is the paramount and final arbiter in all difficulties, and was formerly frequented by all the people in the territories extending from many miles east of the Cross River to about 50 miles west of the Niger and from the coast line to about 6° 30′ north. The Aros themselves were the high priests of this Long JuJuism, and employed their powers in the most nefarious manner, as may be judged from the story told by these refugees. It seems that they were but the remnant of a party of about 800 who proceeded some three or four years ago from the territories about the Niger to consult the "Long JuJu" from various causes, some of them being charged with witchcraft, others with "making evil doctor," and others with various crimes by their tribes and families. They were led about the country by a circuitous route for about three months before reaching the seat of "Long JuJu," in a village close to which they were finally made to sit down. Batches of them of about 10 to 30 were occasionally taken away from this village ostensibly to consult "Long JuJu," but from events that have since come to light there can be no doubt that they were victims used for human sacrifices by the Aros themselves, or sold to outlying tribes for that purpose, or as slaves. In this way the party of 800 gradually dwindled down to the miserable residuum of 136, who were the most wretched and emaciated body of people I have ever seen grouped together. They were evidently regarded as unfit to be disposed of as slaves, or even for purposes of sacrifice, and it must be due, I think, to some extent, to their miserable condition that they had the opportunity of escaping. The party appealed to the officer stationed at Eket, from whence they were sent to Bonny and Brass, and thence to the Agent-General of the Royal Niger Company, who returned them to their various towns and villages about Asseh Creek and Abo on the Niger. Since this has been done the refugees have of course been talking freely in their country, and have exposed to all the tribes around the fraud of the "Long JuJu," with the result that the profits of this nefarious form of priestcraft will gradually be curtailed. I may here mention that since the establishment of this Administration the Aros have suffered severely, for the tribes which have gradually been brought under Government control have been broken off from consulting the "Long JuJu," with the result that the enormous profits from the fees charged for such consultations have been seriously curtailed, and that the victims for sacrifice and disposal as slaves are not so easily obtainable now as in the past. The general action as regards the "Long JuJu" in the past, and the present exposure of the fraud by the refugees, has led to a state of unrest among the Aros and to determined opposition to the Government, which render it clear that they are a factor which will shortly have to be dealt with before the territories lying between the Cross River and the Niger can be effectually opened up and controlled.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Railways are non-existent in the territories, but I am glad to say that during the year a considerable distance in new roads has been constructed by the natives in the various districts, principally inland in the Opobo district and in the Benin territories. There is considerable difficulty in maintaining and making these roads in the first stretch of country towards the interior from the point where the network of waterways, rivers, and creeks ceases, as the soil is mostly sandy clay, and no metal for foundation is available. This stretch of country does not extend more than 20 or 30 miles, but the difficulty of making and maintaining any roadways in it without stone, rock, or gravel of any kind can easily be imagined.

Dealing with some of the departments not specially reported on, I would mention first the Niger Coast Protectorate Force, which at its full strength consists of 16 European officers and 550 men, but has not at any time during the year been up to its full strength. With this force it was possible to do the expeditionary work mentioned under the heading, "Opening up New Territories and Journeys in the Interior," and also to garrison military posts at Benin City, Brass, Azumini, Eket, and Ediba, but this leaves very few men at head-quarters in case of emergency, and it is clearly evident that even to maintain the present control in the territories the force is quite inadequate. The arm provided during the year was the Martini Henry carbine, which has since been changed for the Martini Enfield ·303. The other armament consists of four 7-pounder M.L. guns, five Maxims, two rocket tubes, and one trough. A new officers' mess house has been provided during the year, with accommodation for six officers, at head-quarters, which will in all probability be sufficient for such staff as may be stationed at Old Calabar, many officers being required to be at outstations and military posts with detachments, and only the actual staff at head-quarters. The barracks, which provide accommodation for 350 single and 50 married men, are close to the officers' mess and quarters, and have been maintained in good order. All offices, stores, &c. are also adjacent to the new quarters.

The Marine Department, which is a most important one in this Protectorate, and one which from local circumstances it is very difficult to maintain in a thorough state of efficiency, has during the year met all requirements and done its work satisfactorily, although (as in other departments) the work has had to be carried on very often with a shorthanded European staff. The floating craft in the department consist of the steam yacht "Ivy," and eight launches stationed in the various districts, and a large number of gigs, dingheys, and canoes. The marine workshops, which were established on a thorough working basis

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during the year, are at Old Calabar; and a launch slip for minor repairs in the Central Division has been established at Degema. Excellent work has been done in the marine workshops, and all the launches have undergone a thorough overhaul and have been placed in an efficient condition. The importance and work of this department may be gauged from the fact that there are nine ports in the Protectorate where Customs and Post Office work has to be carried on by water, and about 3,000 miles of inland waterway to control.

The Printing Department, which has developed during the year, is deserving of some mention. All Government printing is efficiently done by it, and the work turned out reflects great credit on the organization and management. The work may be gauged from the fact that during the year 900 books, pamphlets, &c., were printed and bound in the printing office, and 223,599 departmental forms were ruled and printed.

The Public Works Department may now be regarded as established on an efficient basis, and the work has been fairly satisfactorily done during the year. It has been found possible to make good bricks in many parts of the territories, and it is hoped that in future years it will be possible to construct good permanent brick buildings at much less cost than in the past. Only one set of manual brickmaking plant has up to this been in use, but in future the local brickmaking industry will be efficiently developed, so that the great cost of importing bricks from England, not to mention the enormous loss in breakage, will be saved.

R. MOOR,

Commissioner and Consul-General.

TABLE D1.—Return shewing Value of Imports and Exports and Duties collected.

TABLE E1.—Return shewing the Value of Imports from, and Exports to United Kingdom, &c., &c.

TABLE F.—Return shewing the Number and Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared.

TABLE G.—Return of British Shipping at the Ports of the Niger Coast Protectorate.

NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE, 1898–9.

TABLE D 1.—Return shewing Value of Imports and Exports, and April 1, 1898, to March 31, 1899, compared with the corresponding period

District.	Imports.				Exports.			
	1898–99.		1897–98.		1898–99.		1897–98.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Old Calabar ...	228,640	17 4	197,416	4 2	218,969	10 6	200,607	2 7
Opobo	155,247	19 0	144,884	19 3	188,939	8 4	215,704	12 4
Bonny	31,224	12 8	43,866	1 3	31,462	4 5	45,845	1 1
New Calabar ...	93,402	15 6	98,230	8 8	134,340	7 3	124,634	14 6
Brass	23,398	4 4	21,703	6 3	21,952	6 3	21,399	16 8
Benin and Sapele	112,413	5 7	66,708	1 2	87,464	17 1	66,936	1 11
Warri	88,312	4 0	66,889	11 10	91,519	5 11	74,995	19 10
Total £	732,639	18 5	639,698	12 7	774,647	19 9	750,223	8 11

Duties collected, in each District of the Niger Coast Protectorate from of 1897–98 :—

Duty Collected.		Total Trade.		District.
1898–99.	1897–98.	1898–99.	1897–98.	
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
55,233 17 0	48,931 14 4	447 610 7 10	398,083 6 9	Old Calabar.
36,100 17 11	32,006 17 2	344,187 7 4	360,589 11 7	Opobo.
4,327 16 4	7,670 9 8	62,686 17 1	89,751 2 4	Bonny.
21,404 11 1	19,086 15 11	227,743 2 9	222,865 3 2	New Calabar.
7,002 10 4	9,284 0 2	45,350 10 7	43,103 2 11	Brass.
18,721 1 2	14,150 14 1	199,878 2 8	133,644 3 1	Benin and Sapele.
17,962 1 9	14,411 5 7	179,831 9 11	141,885 11 8	Warri.
160,752 15 7	145,541 16 11	1,507,287 18 2	1,389,922 1 6	Total.

TABLE E 1.—Return shewing the Value of Imports from, and Exports to, the undermentioned Countries from April 1, 1898, to March 31, 1899, compared with the corresponding period of 1897-98 :—

Countries.	Imports.		Exports.		Total Trade.	
	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom	583,067 4 5	504,802 11 7	500,367 15 8	497,589 1 9	1,083,435 0 1	1,002,391 13 4
France	—	12 16 0	21,487 3 10	12,467 5 0	21,487 3 10	12,480 1 0
Germany	51,330 16 8	49,206 14 4	251,003 8 3	231,490 9 1	302,334 4 11	280,697 3 5
Holland	77,260 14 7	60,986 6 5	—	6,660 15 0	77,260 14 7	67,647 1 5
Niger Territories	143 8 1	35 1 6	56 11 2	33 7 0	199 19 3	68 8 6
Other Countries	20,837 14 8	24,655 2 9	1,733 0 10	1,982 11 1	22,570 15 6	26,637 13 10
Total ... £	732,639 18 5	639,698 12 7	774,647 19 9	750,223 8 11	1,507,287 18 2	1,389,922 1 6

TABLE F.—Return shewing the Number and Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared in each District of the Niger Coast Protectorate from April 1, 1898, to March 31, 1899, and the corresponding period of 1897-98 :—

District.	1898-99.				1897-98.			
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Registered Tonnage.	Number.	Registered Tonnage.	Number.	Registered Tonnage.	Number.	Registered Tonnage.
Old Calabar	63	96,088	61	91,761	61	78,846	60	77,833
Opobo	49	77,427	48	75,412	44	68,525	44	68,525
Bonny	67	99,969	66	97,954	52	77,934	52	77,738
New Calabar	50	66,594	50	66,594	46	59,807	45	58,715
Brass	40	64,286	40	64,286	35	58,859	35	58,859
Benin and Sapele	52	71,380	52	71,380	47	71,333	47	71,333
Warri	58	84,168	58	84,168	57	73,648	57	72,887
Totals for all stations ...	379	559,912	375	551,555	342	488,952	340	485,890

NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE, 1898–9.

TABLE G.—Return of British Shipping at the Ports of the Niger Coast Direct Trade in British Vessels from

ENTERED.

Total Number of Vessels.			Total Tonnage.			Total Number of Crews.	Total Value of Cargoes.
With Cargoes.	In Ballast.	Total.	With Cargoes.	In Ballast.	Total.		
97	—	97	136,911	—	136,911	3,631	£ 595,661

Indirect or Carrying Trade in British

ENTERED.

Countries when e Arrived.	Number of Vessels.			Tonnage.			Number of Crews.	Value of Cargoes.
	With Cargoes.	In Ballast.	Total.	With Cargoes.	In Ballast.	Total.		
Hamburg via Rotterdam	34	1	35	37,709	1,657	39,366	936	£ 49,488 77,260
Total ...	34	1	35	37,709	1,657	39,366	936	126,748

Protectorate in the Year 1898–99 (April 1, 1898, to March 31, 1899).
and to Great Britain and British Colonies.

CLEARED.

Total Number of Vessels.			Total Tonnage.			Total Number of Crews.	Total Value of Cargoes.
With Cargoes.	In Ballast.	Total.	With Cargoes.	In Ballast.	Total.		
97	—	97	136,911	—	136,911	3,631	£ 501,999

Vessels from and to other Countries.

CLEARED.

Countries to which Departed.	Number of Vessels.			Tonnage.			Number of Crews.	Value of Cargoes.
	With Cargoes.	In Ballast.	Total.	With Cargoes.	In Ballast.	Total.		
Hamburg via Havre	35	—	35	39,366	—	39,366	936	£ 211,445 21,487
Total ...	35	—	35	39,366	—	39,366	936	232,932

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1900.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 315.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

REPORT FOR 1899-1900.

(For Report for 1898–99, *see* No. 289.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
January, 1901.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
291	Falkland Islands	1899
292	British New Guinea	1898-99
293	Bermuda	1899
294	Barbados	,,
295	Malta	,,
296	Fiji	,,
297	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
298	Bahamas	,,
299	Sierra Leone	,,
300	Gambia	,,
301	Seychelles	,,
302	Mauritius and Rodrigues	,,
303	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
304	Straits Settlements	,,
305	Gibraltar	,,
306	Gold Coast	,,
307	Ceylon	,,
308	Leeward Islands	,,
309	St. Helena	,,
310	British Honduras	,,
311	St. Lucia	,,
312	St. Vincent	,,
313	Basutoland	1899–1900
314	Hong Kong	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast...	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.

No. 315.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

(For Report for 1898–99, *see* No. 289).

MAJOR GALLWEY to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Old Calabar,
25th September, 1900.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Annual Report on the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria for the year 1899–1900.

I am, &c.,

H. L. GALLWEY

Acting High Commissioner.

7543—800—12/1900 Wt 24600 D & S—5

SOUTHERN NIGERIA, 1899-1900.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1899-1900.

1.—FINANCIAL.

A. General Revenue and Expenditure.

The Revenue received for the year from all sources amounted to £164,108 1*s.* 8½*d.*, which exceeded the amount estimated by £8,418 1*s.* 8½*d.*, and is less than the revenue for the previous year by £5,459 17*s.* 2½*d.*

There was a balance brought forward from the previous year of £19,198 12*s.* 10*d.*, and a Parliamentary Grant made on the 29th March, 1900, of £18,470 (for purchase of vessels and buildings in the new territories), which, added to the revenue for the year, made in all £201,776 14*s.* 6½*d.* available for expenditure. As, however, the Parliamentary Grant was made only two days before the completion of the year, the amount of that grant was not practically available for expenditure.

Customs duties contributed £156,491 19*s.* 6½*d.* of the total revenue.

Attached are two statements, marked K and L. respectively, the former being a statement of the Revenue and Expenditure for the years 1898-99 and 1899-1900, in which the different heads are shown. The latter is a return of the total Revenue and Expenditure for the five years ending 31st March, 1900.

The excess of the actual revenue over the amount estimated, amounting to £8,418 1*s.* 8½*d.*, was chiefly due to the introduction on the 29th December of a revised Customs Tariff, in which was included an *ad valorem* duty of 5 per cent. on all goods (with a few exceptions, and other than those chargeable with specific duties). The duty on salt was raised from 4*s.* to 20*s.* per ton, wines from 6*d.* per dozen quarts to 1*s.*, 2*s.*, and 3*s.* per gallon according to kind, and unmanufactured tobacco from 2*d.* to 3*d.* per lb.; the excess in Customs duties alone being £6,491 19*s.* 6½*d.* Another reason for the excess was that on the 16th June, 1899, an additional duty of 1*s.* per gallon was imposed on all spirits. The excess is also due to the fact of the Royal Niger Company's Territories being taken over by the Government on the 1st January, 1900; although during the months of January, February, and March the water in the Niger is very low, and consequently the imports during that period are not considerable.

B. EXPENDITURE.

The total expenditure for the year was £176,140 8*s.* 7*d.*, against £146,751 17*s.* 1½*d.* for the year 1898–99. The actual expenditure was less than the estimated expenditure by £33,188 4*s.* 2*d.*

The only excess of expenditure over the estimates was under the head of "miscellaneous" to the extent of £1,764 9*s.* 2½*d.*, the principal subheads under which this excess occurred being "rations to native staff," "telegrams," and "stationery."

With the exception of pensions all other heads of expenditure showed savings on the estimated amounts. The savings were chiefly due to works and buildings estimated for but not completed, also launches requisitioned for by the Marine Department not being built at the close of the year. In addition to these, various orders sent home were not executed before the end of the financial year.

C. ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

Attached is a statement, marked M, of assets and liabilities, which shows an excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st March, 1900, of £67,089 8*s.* 6½*d.*, as compared with £58,469 2*s.* 8*d.* at the close of the previous year.

In the liabilities, under deposits due by the Protectorate, the following amounts appear:—£6,900 16*s.* 2*d.* was paid by the Royal Niger Company for the deferred pay of the troops taken over from them by this Government on the 1st January, 1900. This amount is being withdrawn from time to time. £2,225 19*s.* 0½*d.* was received on account of money orders drawn on United Kingdom and the Colonies.

The sum of £2,935 paid by the Admiralty on account of naval expenses in connection with the Benin City Expedition, 1897, had not been adjusted; and further, £5,865 deposited on account of Customs duties by the agents trading at Old Calabar remained unadjusted at the end of the year.

The assets of the Protectorate on the 31st March, 1900, consisted of—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
(1.) Cash balances	17,905	15	2½
(2.) Cash on deposit	18,470	0	0
(3.) Cash lent at interest ...	27,500	0	0
(4.) Cash in transit	16,854	5	2
Carried forward ...	£80,730	0	4½

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward ...	80,730	0	4½
(5.) Advances due to the Protectorate	4,086	1	11
(6.) "Ivy" depreciation fund ...	5,340	18	1
Total assets ...	£90,157	0	4½

Against this the Protectorate is liable for—

	£	s.	d.
(1.) Deposits	22,940	7	6
(2.) Drafts drawn and unpaid ...	127	4	4
Total liabilities ...	£23,067	11	10

The above figures show an excess of assets over liabilities of £67,089 8*s.* 6½*d.*

D. CURRENCY.

No change in this respect has taken place during the year under review; and now that the importation of brass rods has ceased, owing to the fact that the price of brass and copper has risen, the natives in the Old Calabar and Cross River Districts appear more anxious than ever to obtain the old currency, and it is very difficult indeed to make them understand the many advantages that cash currency has over their brass rods.

In other districts, however, the cash currency is being circulated, although slowly.

Although it looked as if a bank would be established at Old Calabar early in the year 1900, the matter at present appears to have been dropped.

A uniform standard of weights and measures will be introduced during the year 1900-1901.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

A. TRADE.

Under this head I would point out that the revenue shown is the amount of the actual sums collected by the Customs Department without regard to rebates, and is consequently slightly in excess of the net revenue shown in the figures given under "Section I., Financial."

I attach a return, marked N, showing the value of imports and exports for the year under review, as compared with the

corresponding period 1898–1899; and another, marked O, showing the value of imports and exports for the last five years, including the year under review.

From these returns it will be seen that the imports show a decrease of £6,841 16*s.* 8*d.*, whereas the exports show an increase of £114,306 19*s.* 5*d.*; or showing a net increase in the total trade of the Protectorate, as compared with the previous year, of £107,465 2*s.* 9d.

The total duty collected amounted to £156,578 3*s.* 0½*d.*, being less than that of the previous year by £4,174 12*s.* 6½*d.*

The Collector of Customs in his Annual Report points out that the fall in imports and duty was chiefly owing to a considerable falling off in the import of spirits.

It is interesting to note that 980,944 gallons of gin and geneva and 324,161 gallons of rum were imported into the Protectorate during the year 1898–1899, whereas for the year under review these figures were 614,298 gallons and 165,208 gallons respectively. These figures alone will account for a considerable part of the falling off in imports and duty.

I have mentioned before under the head of "Finance" that on the 16th June, 1899, an additional duty was imposed of 1*s.* per gallon on spirits, which duty was levied on the stock in hand on that date.

Salt and tobacco show an increase of 10 per cent. and slightly over 23 per cent. respectively on the results of last year. In value, however, salt showed an increase of over 100 per cent., which was owing to the prices quoted in certain districts being inaccurate consequent on the want of original invoices.

The total Customs revenue derived from spirits, salt, and tobacco, amounted to £142,777 2*s.* 9*d.*, out of a total specific duty of £150,923 16*s.* 0*d.*, or about 94 per cent. of the whole.

The *ad valorem* duty of 5 per cent. was not introduced until the 29th December, 1899, and yielded to the revenue a sum of £5,654 7*s.* 0½*d.* The principal articles contributing to this amount were cotton goods, the duty on which collected amounted to £2,703 15*s.* 1½*d.*; hardware and cutlery, £488 12*s.* 3*d.*; wearing apparel, £306 13*s.* 6½*d.*; and provisions, £300 11*s.* 4½*d.* No other goods coming under this head paid duty exceeding £220.

The export trade during the year, which amounted to £888,954 19*s.* 2*d.*, consisted chiefly of native or indigenous produce, the value of which amounted to £880,762 in round numbers, being an increase of £119,696 over that for the corresponding period 1898–1899.

The value of foreign produce and manufactures amounted to £8,193, as against £5,382 in the preceding year.

The principal exports continued to be palm kernels, 43,569 tons valued at £340,218 4*s.* 0*d.*, as compared with 40,528 tons valued

SOUTHERN NIGERIA, 1899-1900.

at £305,791 for the year 1898–1899; and of palm oil, amounting to 8,650,226 imperial gallons valued at £420,680 8*s.* 10*d.*, as against 8,113,820 gallons valued at £397,869 10*s.* 10*d.* for the preceding year.

The export of rubber rosé more than 65 per cent., and amounted to 1,450,567 lbs. valued at £105,116 14*s.* 10*d.* as compared with 874,298 lbs. of the value of £60,607 17*s.* 9*d.* for the previous year. The cocoa exported also showed an increase of 23 per cent. over last year. Coffee and ebony showed a falling off, the latter by more than 74 per cent.

The falling off in ebony has been apparent every year, as the following figures of the amount exported will show :—1895–1896, 1,218 tons; 1896–1897, 1,075 tons; 1897–1898, 637 tons; 1898–1899, 250 tons; and for the year under review the figures fell to 64 tons. The explanation of this unsatisfactory state of affairs is, I understand, that the usual size of the billets has been altered, and that in order to pay the exporter the wood must be cut larger. The natives, however, are very conservative, and it takes a long time to educate them in such matters.

The exportation of timber from the Protectorate is a new feature, and I trust it will continue to develop; and although the industry only started to any extent in August, 1899, 23,983 superficial feet were exported.

The principal foreign articles of export during the year under review consisted of brass and copper wire, chiefly from Old Calabar and Opobo, and showed a value of £4,815 3*s.* 0*d.*

It is not possible in this report to make any comparison as to the difference caused by the addition of the territories which were taken over by the Government from the Royal Niger Company, as for only three months of the year under review were duties collected in those territories. The import and export trade in the Niger territories is principally carried on during the rains, when the water rises; whereas the three months referred to above fell in the dry weather, when the water was at its lowest, and consequently there was a minimum of both import and export trade. The increase in trade derived from these new territories can only begin to be estimated when next year's annual report is written.

Trade with the United Kingdom continued on the increase. The following figures are interesting as showing the total trade with the United Kingdom for three years :—1897–1898, £1,002,391 13*s.* 4*d.*; 1898–1899, £1,083,435 0*s.* 1*d.*; 1899–1900, £1,129,087 4*s.* 0*d.* Trade with the United Kingdom formed more than 69 per cent. of the total trade of the Protectorate, whereas last year the figures were roughly 72 per cent. I attach hereto a return marked "N," shewing the value of imports from and exports to the United Kingdom and other countries during the years 1899–1900 and 1898–1899, from which it will be seen that trade with Germany is decidedly on the increase.

During the year a direct trade was carried on with the United States, two vessels having arrived from that country with kerosene oil. As the Collector of Customs points out, this was a new feature.

B. AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

During the year under review a Forestry Department was formed. The first matter that required dealing with by this department was the preservation of the extensive rubber forests in the Benin territories. In my opinion great credit is due to Mr. Hitchens, the Forestry Inspector, for the very energetic manner in which he carried out this work, and for the successful efforts he made to educate the Binis to safeguard the rubber trees. The wholesale destruction of yielding trees and vines in both the Lagos and Gold Coast Colonies pointed to the necessity there was for immediately framing regulations laying down the manner in which the rubber should be worked, and the seasons when it was permitted to work it, Sir Ralph Moor met the case by drawing up certain regulations which were duly enacted and made law in the Benin territories. The duty of seeing that these regulations were carried out as far as possible lay with the Forestry Inspector, and I consider that the regulations proved most effective, as the following extract from the Forestry Inspector's Annual Report will show.

Referring to these regulations, the report states: "I endeavoured to make them preventively operative by personally inspecting and assessing the value of rubber forests belonging to nearly 100 Bini towns and villages; by creating, in accordance with the extent of forest, staffs of *ex-officio* rubber inspectors in each of them; by instructing the inhabitants of all of them in the only safe regulated way of tapping suited to local circumstances; by explaining in detail the rubber regulations prohibiting tapping during the dry season; and by constituting every Bini an *ex-officio* policeman to bring to justice any rubber gatherer infringing the regulations. . . . . Fortunately the Binis, whose eyes I have opened on every possible occasion to the value of their rubber forests, responded with alacrity, and to-day exercise such restraining influence on prohibited rubber-tapping and adulterated rubber-producing that not a single rubber gatherer is free from close 'shadowing,' and not a single ball of rubber and prohibited root rubber could work its undetected way to Lagos or our own trading factories. Even though gathered out of this Protectorate, it could not work its way down unchallenged, provided it had to pass any portion of the Benin City territories. This is so in every part of the territories—even in the newly acquired districts stretching eastward."

It is only in the Benin territories that such regulations are in force, as the other rubber forests in the Protectorate lie in those parts where native councils do not exist, and consequently it is not possible to enact native laws by which the regulations can be

brought into force. It will probably be found advisable to issue a Proclamation dealing with rubber forests throughout the Protectorate.

During the year nurseries were established in a few centres of districts. The object of these nurseries is to form plantations close to villages for seed-producing purposes. This will eventually allow every village to collect its own seed in order to sow in the bush at the commencement of the rainy season.

It is also interesting to note that during the year, out of an approximate length of roadway in the Benin territories of 450 miles, the Forestry Inspector planted 250 miles of road with rubber seed, four deep on each side of the main roads and bush paths. Probably before very long it will be found wise to establish Government rubber reservations in different parts of the Protectorate.

Rules and regulations governing timber concessions were promulgated during the year, with the result that several concessions were taken up and work commenced on two or three of them; this industry should thrive, as there is, no doubt, a large quantity of mahogany and other valuable timber in the Protectorate. The greatest difficulty to be contended with is where the timber exists at some distance from the water-ways. The concessions in which timber was worked were situated on the banks of the rivers and creeks, and consequently a minimum amount of land transport was necessary before the logs were floated in the river.

With the exception of rubber, the working of which will increase every year, the only industry carried on to any extent by the natives is the working of the oil palm. The natives on the banks of the Qua Ibo river do a certain amount of trade in piassava, but the quantity exported is not very considerable.

The Forestry Inspector in his report draws attention to many valuable products as yet unworked in the Protectorate. Thinking it might be useful for the European firms trading in this country, I sent an extract from the report in which these products were referred to to the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, and I trust that the result may be that the agents of the firms out here will make every effort to start trade in, at least, a few of the products mentioned.

When the Imperial Government took over the Niger Company's territories on the 1st January, 1900, this Government became possessed of three or four coffee plantations which had formerly belonged to the Royal Niger Company. I am afraid, however, that unless a considerable rise takes place in price, the cultivation of coffee out here will always be run at a loss. Not only is the price of that article low, but the cost of labour is certainly not cheap, especially when compared with labour in the East. The Curator of the Botanical Department distributed many thousands of plants during the year to the chiefs and other

people who were anxious to have them. The Curator's energies were chiefly directed to experimenting in the growing of plants suitable for exporting as produce, and met with a fair amount of success. I do not consider, however, that the funds spent on the upkeep of the Botanical station at Old Calabar, and the coffee plantations mentioned above, bring in a satisfactory return.

C. SHIPPING.

I attach two returns marked Q and Q 1, the former showing the number and tonnage of vessels, both sail and steam, distinguishing nationalities, which entered and cleared with cargo and in ballast in the Protectorate during the period comprised in this report and the corresponding period 1898–1899.

The latter return shows the aggregate number and tonnage of steam and sailing vessels, distinguishing nationalties, which entered and cleared in the Protectorate for the years 1895–1896, 1896–1897, 1897–1898, 1898–1899 and 1899–1900.

Included in these returns are the branch boats which entered and cleared at Forcados during the last three months of the year, that port having been made an entering and clearing station from 1st January, 1900. These branch boats are used almost entirely for working Lagos cargo, both inwards and outwards, the Lagos bar not allowing large steamers to enter that port.

The total volume of trade carried in all vessels (not including branch boats) amounted to a value of £1,614,753 0*s*. 11*d*., of which no less than £1,554,396 11*s*. 7*d*. was carried in British vessels, leaving only a value of £60,356 9*s*. 4*d*. carried in vessels of other nationalities.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Legislation during the year was confined to the following :—

Constables' Wills and Property Distribution Ordinance, 1899.

Proclamation No. 1 of 1900, relating to transfer of interest in lands.

Proclamation No. 2 of 1900, Customs Tariff.

The first-mentioned enactment was an introduction, under the authority of the "Africa Order in Council, 1889," of an Ordinance which had been in operation in Lagos for many years, and is intended to facilitate the distribution of the property of deceased
of the military forces of the Protectorate. The
laid down in dealing with the "estates" is simplified,
the matter to be dealt with promptly and, to a large
tmentally.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA, 1899-1900.

The repeal of the "Africa Order in Council, 1889," and the changes proposed by the Southern Nigeria Order in Council, 1899, necessitated legislation under the latter order. Legislative enactments will in future take the form of Proclamations, two of which were promulgated during the year.

Proclamation No. 1 of 1900 provides that no interests in land shall be acquired from the natives without the approval of the High Commissioner. This chiefly affects the Niger territories, where it is highly essential in the interest of the native owners as well as of the Protectorate generally that new concessions and grants should be acquired under Government sanction.

Proclamation No. 2 of 1900 introduced a new Customs Tariff on the lines of the tariff in use in the Colony of Lagos. There were, however, a few differences in the two tariffs as regards certain specific duties, which differences have since been rectified.

IV.—EDUCATION.

A. PRIMARY EDUCATION.

The remarks under this head, as to progress made, by Sir Ralph Moor in his report for the year 1898-1899 apply to the year under review. The question of improving the provision for education, especially for secondary education, has been thoroughly gone into, but the attention required by more pressing matters prevented any practical progress being made.

Through the courtesy of Sir William McGregor, Mr. Henry Carr, Inspector of Schools for the Colony of Lagos, made an inspection of the schools at Old Calabar and Bonny, and generally enquired into the condition of education existing in this Protectorate. Mr. Carr furnished a very lucid report on the result of his inspection. In his report Mr. Carr states that he heard it generally remarked that the result yet produced in actual school-learning by the missionaries in this Protectorate is very small; and he goes on to point out that the reason for this is, "the missionaries look upon schools as the instruments for making converts, other men view them as instruments for making good and useful citizens." Mr. Carr, however, pays a tribute to the work performed by the missions, and remarks, "it is to be remembered that at the initial stage of mission work the first duty is to create new social conditions; the first battle is with superstition and the old order of things. School-learning, even if possible, is worse than useless at this stage, for the simple reason that there is no demand for
convinced that small as is the actual result in scho
produced by the missions, the result which they h
on the temper, intelligence, and social conditions

has not been unimportant, and this is the work which it has as yet been possible to achieve." Mr. Carr concludes his report by urging the great necessity there is for Government control over schools—a necessity which Sir Ralph Moor has from time to time pointed out as the only sound system under which education can be carried on satisfactorily. To quote the report further: "when schools are without Government inspection the tendency is to under-staff them, to under-pay the teachers, and to ambition a multiplicity of subjects without a thorough grounding in the elementary matters of instruction."

It was hoped that during the year under review it would have been possible to start an Educational Institute at Bonny under Government supervision, primary education and industrial instruction only being attempted as a start. Owing to the difficulty connected with securing a satisfactory staff of teachers, the school was not started until the first week of April, 1900, and consequently it does not come within the period comprised in this report.

The grants to missions during the year amounted to £1,085 12*s*. 4*d*.

B. Secondary Education.

There is no provision yet made for secondary education in this Protectorate. Sir Ralph Moor has, however, been giving the matter his earnest attention whilst on leave; and, should funds permit, I trust that before very long a start may be made by which boys who have completed their primary education will be enabled to receive secondary education without having to go to schools outside the Protectorate.

C. Higher Education.

In Mr. Carr's report, already referred to, he points out that there is unfortunately no institution on the West Coast of Africa where school teachers can be trained.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

A. Hospitals.

European Hospital.

The number of cases treated at this hospital during the year amounted to 83, an increase of nine over that of the previous year.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA, 1899-1900.

As all the deaths (two) in the Old Calabar district occurred in the hospital, the mortality of those treated was at the rate of 2·40 per cent., which, on comparing with the figures of the previous year, shows a decrease of 4·30 per cent. in the death rate.

The nursing staff, as usual, gave the greatest satisfaction by the excellent manner in which they carried out their duties.

Native Hospital.

5,984 cases were treated at St. Margaret's Native Hospital during the year, as against 5,520 in 1898–1899, showing an increase of 464 cases.

The death rate during the period under review was ·50 per cent. as against ·14 per cent. in 1898–1899, an increase of ·36 per cent. This increase may be accounted for by the fact that 735 pauper cases were treated during the year, a considerable number of whom were in the last stages of disease when admitted.

It is hard to exaggerate how great a boon has been conferred on the native population of Old Calabar by the establishment of this hospital; and I consider that the greatest credit is due to Dr. Allman and his staff for the very excellent manner in which the work in connection with the hospital has been organised, and for the equally zealous and efficient manner in which the work is carried on.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Owing to the fact that the "Africa Order in Council, 1889," was repealed in December, 1899, and that the necessary legislation for re-establishing courts could not be published until 1st May, 1900, no judicial reports for January to March, 1900, were possible; consequently the figures shown under this section are made up to 31st December, 1899.

A. CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The criminal statistics for the year present no unusual features, offences having varied very slightly in character and number as compared with those of the previous year.

The total number of cases dealt with by the eight Consular Courts amounted to 404, the corresponding total for 1898–1899 being 486. The cases mentioned were all dealt with summarily, there being no recorded instance of an appeal from a District Commissioner's decision, and no application for review of sentence.

Offences against property preponderate as compared with offences against the person. The actual figures are 168 and 87 respectively. Of the former class of offences practically all charges would fall under the head of simple larceny, no cases of malicious injuries to property or praedial larceny having been recorded. There were 66 convictions for other offences.

Mr. Menendez, the Acting Chief Justice, points out that in his opinion the civil returns may be considered satisfactory. Claims for debt during the period mentioned amounted to 220, whilst judgment debtors were brought before the courts on only 19 occasions. These claims arose in most cases out of ordinary trading and "trust" transactions, and, with the exception of those associated with long standing "trust" accounts, were easily settled.

The total number of civil cases dealt with, amounting to 251, compared favourably with the total for 1898–99, viz., 388.

B. Native Courts.

The native courts of the Protectorate have, to a great extent, been reorganized during the past year, having been brought more directly under the control and supervision of the District Commissioners, whose interests in the administration of justice through native channels, and whose tact in adapting native tribunals to local requirements, deserves mentioning. The Acting Chief Justice in his report points out that in settled districts the courts have shown marked improvements in their regard for regular procedure, prompt attention to charges and civil matters, and systematic control of court funds.

Reports from outstations vary as to the efficiency of the members of the various courts; but the Acting Chief Justice reports that native administration under the supervision of the District Commissioners has worked exceedingly well, and he particularly refers to the outstations of Warri and Sapele, where the gradual extension of this system has brought within the control of the Government numerous outlying villages whose previous attitude had been far from friendly.

I would particularly refer to the excellent work done by the native court at Akwete in the Opobo District, which is almost entirely due to the energy and tact displayed by Mr. Travelling Commissioner James. The extent to which the European courts have been assisted by these tribunals is especially marked at Warri, in which district 729 cases were heard. Great difficulty is found in providing these courts with efficient clerks.

The following figures may be of interest in showing the native and minor courts in existence in the Protectorate during the year 1899–1900.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA, 1899-1900.

Old Calabar District—1 High Court, 15 Minor Courts.

Opobo District—1 Native Council, 3 Minor Courts.

Akwette Sub-District—2 Minor Courts.

Bonny District—2 Native Councils (Bonny and Okrika), 1 Minor Court.

New Calabar District—1 Native Council, 3 Minor Courts.

Brass District—1 Native Council.

Warri District—1 Native Council, 3 Minor Courts.

Sapele District—1 Native Council.

Benin City District—1 Native Council.

C. PRISONS.

The prisons in the Protectorate during the year were increased by one, viz., that at Asaba. This prison is used almost entirely for the accommodation of prisoners from the new Niger territories and from Northern Nigeria. In order to ensure the efficient working of the prison it was found necessary to appoint a complete staff on the same lines as that at Old Calabar.

The building of the new prison at Old Calabar made fairly satisfactory progress during the year.

The following statistics only include the returns from the prisons at Old Calabar, Degema, Sapele, and Benin city. The Asaba prison was not in full working order during the year under review.

The number of prisoners in the various prisons on the 1st April, 1899, was 354 convicted and four awaiting trial. The number of prisoners received into the prisons during the year was 1,316, which included four Europeans and one Maltese. The number discharged during the year amounted to 857. No fewer than 516 prisoners were discharged as unconvicted.

Twenty-two escapes from the prisons took place during the year, of which ten were recaptured. These escapes chiefly occurred at Benin city whilst the prisoners were employed in road-making through the forests; and consequently the chances of a prisoner escaping were greater than on ordinary occasions. The number of prisoners remaining in the prisons on the 31st March, 1900, was 246 convicted and two awaiting trial.

The terms of imprisonment of the several prisoners sentenced during the year were as follows:—Under three months 175, over three months and under one year 302, over one year 184. There were five executions during the year. The value of prison labour as calculated by the several officers in charge of the different prisons amounted to £2,847 10*s.* 3*d.*

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

A. POPULATION.

The average resident European population during the year was, approximately, 270, showing an increase of 43 on the previous year.

It is not possible to form any estimate of the native population of the Protectorate.

B. PUBLIC HEALTH.

As the majority of the European inhabitants only stay in the Protectorate for one or two years at a time, there is a constant change going on, and consequently a percentage of deaths estimated on a fixed population cannot be quite accurate for purposes of comparison with former years. This system is, however, followed, and is, I think, sufficient for general information. Calculated on this basis, the total European death-rate for the year under review was 7·40 per cent., and shows an increase of 1·24 per cent. over that of the preceding year. If, however, two deaths from respiratory diseases, one from digestive trouble, and one from drowning are excluded, the death-rate from purely climatic causes amounts to 5·92 per cent.

Taking the death percentage in certain details, the death-rate in Old Calabar district was 2·04 per cent., showing a decrease of 5·25 per cent. on that of the previous year. On the other hand, Opobo, Warri, and Benin River districts, which were considered the most healthy in the Protectorate, show for the year under review an increase in the mortality of 14·5 for Opobo, 13·15 for Warri, and 40 per cent. for Benin River. Sapele, which for the last five years has been notoriously unhealthy, compares favourably with the most healthy districts, and shows a decrease in the death-rate of 14·28 per cent. on that of the previous year, which decrease was anticipated by Sir Ralph Moor in his report for 1898–1899.

The number of European patients treated by the Medical Staff in the Protectorate during the year under review amounted to 1,205, of whom 48 were invalided and 16 died. There were in addition 4 deaths, which occurred where medical aid was not obtainable or was not called in in time. Of the 1,205 cases treated, 15 were still under treatment on the 1st April, 1900. Of the total cases treated, 605 were suffering from climatic fevers.

The number of native patients treated during the same period amounted to 13,757, of whom 23 died and 88 were invalided. 65 of this number remained under treatment on the 1st April,

SOUTHERN NIGERIA, 1899-1900.

1900. Of the total 13,757, no fewer than 3,049 were treated for digestive diseases, 1,783 for injuries, and 1,632 for diseases of the respiratory system, 1,546 were suffering from rheumatism, 1,233 from skin diseases, and 858 from climatic fevers.

The Acting Principal Medical Officer in his report for the year points out that the highest sick-rate, both among natives and Europeans, was during the rainy season, though the majority of the severe cases among Europeans occurred during the dry season.

The highest death-rate among the white population was reached in the dry season, half the deaths in the Protectorate having occurred during the months of January, February, and March. Among the natives the greatest number of deaths occurred during the rains.

During the rainy season, which usually lasts from the beginning of May until the end of October, the natives suffer extremely from diseases of the respiratory system and from rheumatism, brought on by exposure and comparative cold.

C. SANITARY.

Owing to the exertions of the Medical Staff, the sanitary condition generally of the European premises may be considered satisfactory, and in a great many cases decided improvement was shown during the year.

Owing to the increase in the number of troops at Old Calabar, more extensive provision for the disposal of excreta has become necessary; and it is proposed that, should funds admit, Moule's dry earth system, modified to a certain degree, shall be adopted to meet local requirements during the year 1900–1901.

The old custom of burying chiefs underneath the houses, which has existed in Old Calabar from time immemorial, has now been finally done away with, and special cemeteries have been laid out for the chiefs outside their towns.

The water supply for the Europeans throughout the whole Protectorate is derived from covered tanks in which rain water is collected from the corrugated iron roofs of the houses. Consequently there is a minimum of danger as regards contamination occurring. The native population derive their supply almost entirely from shallow wells, or from the rivers and creeks when the villages are situated above the tide limit.

During the year under review 2,323 vaccinations were performed by the Medical Staff, and there is no doubt that the number of cases of small-pox is decreasing year by year.

D. CLIMATE.

The only meteorological station in the Protectorate which furnishes returns regularly is at Old Calabar, and is under the superintendence of the Principal Medical Officer. Attached to this report is a return marked "R" showing the temperature, rainfall, and prevalent wind at Old Calabar. The rainfall for the year amounted to 105·55 inches, being about 24 inches less than the previous year. A heavier rainfall than this takes place at Opobo and Bonny. In fact, I think it will be found that the rainfall at Old Calabar is less than in most other stations. I do not, however, include Benin City and the country in the upper reaches of the Niger and Cross Rivers, where the rainfall is certainly much less than on the coast.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

A. POSTAL.

A marked progress was shown during the year in every branch of the postal system of the Protectorate. The principal events of the year in connection with the postal department were the establishment on 1st January of four post offices in the Niger Territories; the extension of the money order system to Akassa and Asaba; and the inauguration of *ad valorem* duties on the contents of parcels received by parcel post. The working of the department was carried out at fifteen offices, viz.: the General Post Office, Old Calabar, eight district post and money order offices, four sub-post offices (performing only postal work), and two postal agencies (one at Bakana and one at Buguma).

It was found necessary to augment the staff of the department as compared with the year 1898–1899, in order to meet the extra work caused by the increase of territory which took place on 1st January, 1900.

During the year under review 351,385 letters, postcards, newspapers, book-packets, and parcels were dealt with, showing an increase compared with the previous year of 108,761.

The revenue realised by the sale of postage stamps during the year amounted to £1,300 0*s.* 6½*d.* In addition to this a sum of £9 12*s.* 11½*d.* was raised on taxed correspondence, &c. The commission collected on money orders issued during the year amounted to £91 19*s.* 7*d.*

The postal revenue for the year shows a decrease as compared with the previous year of £251 17*s.* 2*d.*, the figures being £1,401 15*s.* 1*d.*, as compared with £1,653 12*s.* 3*d.* for the

year 1898–1899. This decrease is accounted for by the introduction in January, 1899, of the penny postage. The Postmaster-General in his report states that, considering the large increase in postal matter treated since the reduction of postage, the decrease mentioned above will be considerably reduced as time goes on.

The expenditure in this department during the year amounted to £3,115 4*s.* 9½*d.*

The transmission of parcels at the reduced rate of postage has substantially increased the business in that branch of the postal system; and, notwithstanding the introduction on the 29th December, 1899, of an *ad valorem* duty on the contents of parcel post packages, no diminution of the quantity of parcels passing through the post is observable.

The Postmaster-General particularly points out that it is a source of special gratification to report the entire immunity from loss in the registered articles which passed through the several post offices; and he attributes this fact to an effective checking system having been introduced to safeguard the service.

There was a considerable increase in the money order branch of the department, especially as between the different West African Colonies, and the Postmaster-General looks for a further increase.

The total amount of foreign and inter-Colonial orders together with inland issues amounted to £6,975 6*s.* 9*d.*, as compared with £5,867 2*s.* 3*d.* during the preceding year. The total amount of orders received was £883 3*s.* 4*d.*, as against £787 4*s.* 8*d.* during 1898–1899.

The inter-riverine mail service, which is carried on almost entirely by canoes, is of the greatest convenience, and gave satisfaction. From the 1st January, 1900, it was found necessary to run a postal launch between Forcados and Idah simultaneous with the arrival and departure of the fortnightly mail steamers. This service is not run without great difficulties having to be contended with. During certain weeks of the year, owing to the lowness of the water in the Niger, the launch cannot proceed beyond Asaba and the mails consequently have to be conveyed from that place to Idah in canoes. This naturally causes great delay, and delays are continually occurring on account of the launch grounding on sand banks; otherwise the service was regularly maintained.

During the last few months of the year considerable additional labour was thrown on the Forcados Post Office owing to the whole of the mails for the Western and Central Divisions and Northern Nigeria having to be sorted there. Since then arrangements have been made for the mails to be made up in separate bags.

A fast twin-screw launch is shortly expected to arrive in the Protectorate, when it will be used entirely to carry out the postal service between Forcados and Idah.

B. TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE.

There is no Protectorate telegraph system in existence, but it is hoped that before long the line from Lokoja will be extended to Asaba with a view to its eventually being taken across country to Old Calabar, where it is sadly needed. As matters stand now the only way in which telegrams can be despatched from Bonny (the telegraph head) to Old Calabar is by means of the mail steamers which call at Bonny once a fortnight. Telegrams can also be sent *viâ* Opobo and Eket, but this method is not at all satisfactory. The telegrams have first to be sent from Bonny to Opobo, and from Opobo to Eket, by canoe. This takes at least 36 hours. From Eket they are sent by land to Jamestown on the right bank of the Cross River, a distance of about 30 miles, the journey taking as a rule from one-and-a-half days to two days. The messenger then proceeds by canoe to Old Calabar, and very often, especially in the rains, the water at the mouth of the river is too rough to allow a canoe to be navigated, and consequently there is sometimes a delay of two or three days at Jamestown. This last stage of the journey takes about eight hours to cover. I have given these details to show the very unsatisfactory system in existence as regards telegraphic communication between the headquarters of the Protectorate and England.

The only telephone service in existence is established between the Medical Officers' quarters and the European hospital at Old Calabar, and, needless to say, is of the greatest use.

IX.-MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

On the 1st January, 1900, the Niger Coast Protectorate Force, with an establishment then consisting of 15 European officers, two native officers, and 533 non-commissioned officers and men, was, on the taking over of the Royal Niger Company's territories, renamed the 3rd Niger Battalion West African Frontier Force, in accordance with the scheme for the amalgamation of the Colonial military forces in West Africa.

In view of the large increase in territory the establishment was increased to the following, viz. :—

27 European officers,
2 native officers,
1,008 non-commissioned officers and men.

Two European officers and 434 non-commissioned officers and men were transferred to the force from the Royal Niger Constabulary on the 1st January, 1900.

The most important work undertaken by the force during the period with which this report deals was the operations which ended in the capture of the rebel chiefs Ologbosiri, Abohun, and

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Oviaware. The operations commenced in the middle of April, 1899, and lasted for about three weeks. The expedition consisted of 16 white officers, several of whom belonged to the political and other departments, 1 native officer, and 250 non-commissioned officers and men, and was commanded by Major Carter. A full report of these operations was published in the *London Gazette* in October, 1899, and therefore, I do not consider it necessary to enter into details. I might, however, mention that the operations were carried out with the greatest success in every detail, for which great credit is due to Major Carter and the officers and men under his command. The capture, trial, and execution of Ologbosiri, who, it will be remembered, was the instigator and master hand in the massacre of Mr. Acting Consul-General Phillips and several officers of the Protectorate in January, 1897, may be considered to be the closing scene of the events which commenced with the tragedy of January 4th, 1897. The Benin Territories, with the exception of a very small area to the north-east of Benin City, may now be considered to be completely under Government control. The natives in the area referred to can easily be dealt with when it is convenient for the Government to take the matter up.

The force was unfortunate during these operations in losing the services of Captain Norman Uniacke, of the 19th Hussars, who was killed in action at Okemue on the 29th April, 1899. Major Carter in his annual report states that this officer's death was greatly to be deplored, as he was an exceptionally keen and intelligent officer.

Owing to the work in connection with the taking over of the Royal Niger Company's Territories in January, 1900, and the increase of the strength of the force, which necessitated a complete reorganization, very little expeditionary work could be undertaken during the dry season. However, towards the end of January, 1900, an expedition consisting of 3 officers and 216 non-commissioned officers and men, under the command of Captain H. P. Gordon, proceeded to the upper reaches of the Cross River, owing to the very disturbed state in which that country then was. No actual hostilities took place but it was found necessary to considerably strengthen the Cross River garrisons for several months afterwards; and, in fact, it will be always necessary to have strong garrisons at the different posts on the Cross River until the Aro, Abam, and Ikwe tribes are dealt with. Further, in order effectually to garrison the Cross River districts during the latter part of 1899, and the first half of 1900, Brigadier-General Lugard was good enough to assist to the extent of 3 officers, and 150 non-commissioned officers and men of the 2nd Battalion West African Frontier Force.

During the year Chuplies, purchased in Cashmere, were issued to the men for expeditionary work only, which have proved to be the most excellent covering for the men's feet when marching along bad paths.

There were only eight desertions in the force during the period under review. These were mostly from Benin City, where the men (Yorubas) are not far from their own country. The remainder of the desertions were by men when on furlough.

It is shortly intended to supply the force with a new equipment of a similar pattern to that supplied to the Lagos constabulary. This will include a small brown canvas valise, bound with leather, and two leather pouches capable of holding 120 rounds of ball ammunition.

It is further proposed to supply the men with a long cape reaching to the knee, which will be carried in marching order. The majority of the men in the force suffer very much from rheumatism during the rains, and are thus incapacitated from duty. If these capes were adopted, the blanket would not necessarily be carried in marching order; and, as Major Carter points out in his annual report, the men have a rooted objection to the blanket, and on expeditions always complain when they are forced to carry it.

The expenditure in connection with the force during the year amounted to £30,196 2*s*. 2*d*., as compared with £21,372 11*s*. 2*d*. in the preceding year.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

A. Important Events during the Year.

The most important event worthy of note which occurred during the year under review was the cancelling of the Royal Niger Company's charter and the taking over on the 1st January, 1900, of the Royal Niger Company's territories by the Imperial Government. A part of these territories as far north as Idah was added to this Protectorate, and the name "Niger Coast Protectorate" was abolished and "Southern Nigeria" substituted.

This considerable addition of territory required that the staff generally in the political and almost every other department should be increased; but, as it was only during the last three months of the period included in this report that the general reorganisation necessary on the extension of the territories was taken in hand, I do not propose to enter into detail as the matter will best be dealt with in next year's report.

I might mention that an accelerated mail and passenger service was established during the year by Messrs. Elder, Dempster & Co., by which the journey from Plymouth to Old Calabar was reduced to 22 days: an improvement on the very slow service which existed formerly, and which is very much appreciated by both the Government and the commercial communities.

B. RAILWAYS, ROADS, AND CANALS.

No attempt has yet been made to establish railways.

There is a perfect system of canals throughout the Protectorate, with the exception of the country between the Qua Ibo and Cross Rivers. These canals form a perfect net-work of creeks by which launches can travel from Opobo to Sapele without going out to sea. The creeks between Qua Ibo River and Opobo River only allow for navigation by canoes.

Considerable progress has been made in different parts of the Protectorate, especially in the Qua Ibo district, in constructing new roads and keeping them in good repair. It is very difficult, however, during the rainy season, on account of the nature of the soil, to keep the roads in a very satisfactory state of repair.

C. PUBLIC WORKS OF IMPORTANCE CARRIED OUT IN PART OR IN WHOLE DURING THE YEAR.

The most important work commenced during the year was the building of the quay wall at Old Calabar, the cost of which it is calculated will amount to about £43,000. The Public Works Department were busy during the year.

The Residency at Benin City, built entirely of bricks made on the spot and of timber cut in the surrounding forest, made satisfactory progress, and should be ready for occupation before very long.

A new brick-field was established on the left bank of the Cross River at a place called Etetim, and steam brick-making gear was erected. When this brick-field is in full working order it will be possible for the Public Works Department to turn out bricks at a little over half the cost which is now paid for them in England (including freight and charges).

Several other buildings were in course of erection during the year, including the prison at Old Calabar and the Judicial House. Progress in the latter was not as satisfactory as one could wish, owing to the long delay there was in certain requisitions being executed, which was due to the very considerable rise in price that took place in timber and all material after the war in South Africa had broken out.

D. CHANGES IN THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PROTECTORATE.

The administration of the Protectorate, which had been in the hands of the Foreign Office for eight years, was transferred to the Colonial Office on the 1st April, 1899.

On the 1st January, 1900, the "Southern Nigeria Order in Council, 1899," was promulgated. The title "High Commissioner" was substituted for that of "Commissioner and

Consul-General," and the titles "Consul," "Vice-Consul," and "Deputy Commissioner" were also abolished, and "Divisional Commissioner" substituted in their place. These alterations in the constitution of the Protectorate necessitated the appointment of a Chief Justice, a Puisne Judge, and an Attorney-General.

E. Important Changes in the Establishment.

As remarked under the head of A, an increase of staff was necessary in almost all the departments, consequent on the taking over of the new territories on the 1st January, 1900, but on this I do not propose entering into detail in this report.

F. Future Prospects of Trade.

The prospects of future trade may be considered bright, especially in the development of the rubber and timber industries. In fact, the possibilities of trade in these two industries are enormous; and that the European firms are conscious of this fact is apparent by the energy which is being displayed, particularly by one firm, in the direction of taking out timber concessions and the making of arrangements to work them with as little delay as possible. Under the head section II., "Trade, &c.," paragraph B, I have already pointed out the possibilities there are for trade in many yet unworked products.

G. Suitability of Climate for Europeans and Openings for White Labour.

I would not for a moment suggest that the climate of West Africa has improved of late years, but there is no doubt that Europeans have improved their knowledge as to the proper mode of living; and, in addition to this, the attention paid to sanitary conditions increases year by year. Further, it is apparent that the European firms at home are being more careful in the selection of the young men they send out as assistants to their factories; and the term of service by which these men are bound has been considerably reduced of late years. In addition to this, these assistants are given more leisure, and are treated in every way with more consideration for their health and comfort in comparison with what was the old order of things not very many years ago. All this tends to lower the death rate.

The openings for white labour in West Africa are limited, and are confined to appointments in which the salary permits the individual to live well; *i.e.*, not having to stint himself in the necessaries of life. Further, the manual labour which a European has to perform out here should be limited. His exertions should chiefly be confined to superintendence. I do not here refer to

marching, in which, of course, all officers, particularly those in the political and military departments, in West Africa, are expected to do their full share if called upon. In fact, with a fair experience of this country, I find that men keep much fitter when on the march, and with plenty to do, than they do if they spend most of their time in an office. The manual work I refer to as not being suitable to this climate is that of actual labour, such as is connected with road-making, house-building, &c. All such labour is best left to natives as much as possible.

H. RATES OF WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The rates of wages as far as Europeans are concerned vary considerably. The wage of local labourers is somewhat high when compared with the East, and is roughly at the rate of about ninepence to one shilling a day. This rate is excessive, more particularly because the native of the Protectorate, with very few exceptions, is not very fond of work, and it is very difficult to get out of him anything like the worth of the money paid. The labour chiefly employed by the Public Works and Marine Departments and by the commercial firms is Kroo labour. The Kroo boy also figures largely as a domestic servant. It is difficult to know how we could get along without this Kroo labour. The Kroo boy is an excellent workman and his wage varies, except in very few exceptional cases, from 30*s.* (as a headman) to 10*s.* per month; he is, of course, in addition to this, supplied with rations of rice and beef. The Kroo boy as a rule does an honest day's work and is always cheerful over it. The great drawbacks to Kroo labour are, first of all, the expense of bringing him into the Protectorate—his passage costing 25*s.* each way—and secondly, the boys are very much averse to remaining away from their country for more than a year at a time.

Cooks, washermen, &c., are generally procured from Lagos and the Gold Coast, and a very much higher wage is paid to them. It is probable that the wages paid in the Protectorate are far too high as regards these people, but it must be remembered that the scale of wages was started many years ago and it was found difficult to get good men unless the same scale was kept up, and in consequence a man who is very well paid at 30*s.* a month as a cook or washerman in Accra will, on coming to the Protectorate, receive wages varying from £3 to £4 10*s.* per month. His passages to and fro have also to be met. Other wages: Native clerks £24 to £250 per annum; engineers £36 to £96 per annum; artificers £36 to £150 per annum; tailors £30 to £70 per annum; carpenters £30 to £50 per annum; &c., &c.

The expense of living varies with the individual. In this Protectorate messes were established from the start; and putting aside a man's wine bill, which is of course optional, it

costs a man, including servant and washing, about £12 a month to live. Consequently £15 a month might be put down as the expenses of a man under ordinary conditions. Whilst on this subject, I strongly advocate that (especially in the case of foremen of works and assistant engineers) when officers are appointed to this Protectorate they should be informed that their living expenses will probably amount to about £180 a year, that is, allowing a reasonable figure for a man's drink bill. I make this suggestion because it has continually been brought to my notice by heads of departments, especially as regards the two classes mentioned, that men come out here being perfectly unaware that they will belong to a mess, and some consider that they have a grievance in having to pay mess charges and, in fact, in having to belong to a mess at all.

On the subject of messes I fully concur in what I know are Sir R. Moor's views, and that is, that they are very essential to the well-being of officers in the Protectorate. It prevents cliques and keeps men together, and further it prevents men from getting slack and untidy in their dress and way of living. It probably costs a man considerably more living in a mess than it would if he catered for himself in his own room, but I consider that the extra cost is well made up for in the general result and comfort attained therefrom.

I. DEPARTMENTS.

Under other heads I have already referred in this report to the following departments:—Public Works, Military, Forestry and Botanical, Judicial, Medical and Sanitary, Prison, Treasury, Customs, and Post Office; but no mention has yet been made of the Marine and Printing Departments.

Considerable changes took place in the Marine Department during the year, which were chiefly connected with the taking over of the Niger territories. An immense addition to the length of water-ways, by which communication has to be kept up, transport arranged for and maintained, and possibly portions patrolled (for all of which the Marine Department is responsible), was made on the taking over of these territories, which includes the lower portion of the River Niger as far north as Idah, Oguta Lake and its connections with the Niger, and the Anambara, Ase, and other creeks connecting the Nun and Warri branches of that river. Captain Child, the Marine Superintendent, in his annual report, states that this large increase in the length of water-ways to be controlled means considerable increase of responsibility thrown on his department. He goes on to say: "It means that many more launches and other river craft will be required than heretofore, which again entails provision being made in the way of slip-ways, repairing yards, and store depôts for their proper upkeep and maintenance; and it means large

additions to the European and native staff ashore and afloat. Shortly, it means an almost complete reorganisation of the department generally, and it necessitates a very large increase in expenditure." This was foreseen and the necessary provision made in the estimates.

The marine store depôt and engineering yard of the Royal Niger Company was taken over by the Government at a cost of £115,000. The taking over of the Akassa yard is an accomplished fact, and the best use must be made of it under the circumstances although the yard could not well be situated in a more ill-chosen spot. There is no satisfactory creek communication between that place and the Western Division; water communication with the Eastern Division is equally unsatisfactory. The Akassa bar is the shallowest and the worst in the Protectorate. Mail steamers have almost given up calling at the place, the quickest route for the English mails being by launch from Forcados to Agberi, and from there by canoe to Akassa. The most serious point, however, is the isolation of Akassa from headquarters. There is no regular steamer communication, and it is entirely dependent on an occasional Hamburg steamer, whose cargo necessitates a call at both Old Calabar and Akassa. Eventually it will, I think, be found necessary, when funds permit, to run a regular launch service between Bonny and Forcados, *viâ* Degema, Brass, and Akassa. The most important addition to the steam-craft of the department during the year was the taking over of the gun-boat "Jackdaw" from the Government of Northern Nigeria.

The work of the Marine Department was carried out satisfactorily, reflecting credit on Captain Child and his staff, and at an expenditure of £32,531 5*s*. 4*d*. Details as to the work of reorganisation in the department necessary on the taking over of the Niger territories will be better left to next year's report.

The work in connection with the Printing Department increases every year, and it will be necessary before long to increase both the staff and the plant. The work done by the department was in every way satisfactory, thanks chiefly to the zeal and energy of Mr. Wright, the Superintendent.

The political staff proved most efficient, and some valuable work in opening up new country was performed by Captain Roupell, and Messrs. Fosbery, James, and Whitehouse.

A Survey Department was provided for in the Estimates, but no appointments were made thereto.

J. General Condition of the Protectorate.

The general condition of the Protectorate, both as regards finances and prospects of future development, may be considered very satisfactory. In a climate like this, where for more than

half the year any real efforts towards opening up country are defeated by the heavy rains, progress must necessarily be slow, although it is probably very sure. The very low type of native which inhabits the greater part of the Protectorate is also a factor which has to be considered when taking account of the actual progress made. The natives of the Protectorate, without exception, are conservative to a degree, especially among the older chiefs, and it is with the greatest difficulty that improvements of any kind can be introduced amongst them, and the only way by which this has been achieved has been by the use of the greatest patience, energy, and tact. It is needless to say that from time to time punitive action has had to be taken in order to put down wholesale massacres, cannibalism, and closing of trade routes, but such punitive means are never resorted to unless all efforts of a pacific nature have utterly failed. This factor, the conservatism of the people, must also be considered when the work which has been performed in this Protectorate during the nine years of its existence is looked into. The work of opening up inland from the coast has been slow, and must always be so, for if done in a hurry and with no thought for the welfare and improvement of the people, it would take a very short time for the country to fall back again into its former state.

H. L. GALLWEY,

Acting High Commissioner.

Government House,

Old Calabar,

25th September, 1900.

K.

STATEMENT showing REVENUE and EXPENDITURE for the YEARS 1898–99 and 1899–1900.

No.	Heads of Revenue.	1898–99. £	s.	d.	1899–1900. £	s.	d.
1	Customs Duties ...	160,669	13	1	156,491	19	6½
2	Licenses, &c. ...	656	16	8	775	12	0
3	Fees, &c.	3,719	5	9	3,358	9	3
4	Postal Revenue ...	1,688	12	0	1,397	0	0
5	Miscellaneous ...	2,833	11	5	2,085	0	11
	Total	169,567	18	11	164,108	1	8½

No.	Heads of Expenditure.	1898–99. £	s.	d.	1899–1900. £	s.	d.
1	Pensions	1,630	0	0	280	0	0
2	Commissioner and Consul-General	3,984	18	10	4,046	9	1
3	Secretary's Department	41	18	11	655	4	3
4	Political and Administrative ...	18,246	2	5	20,327	0	3
5	Judicial	834	10	6	967	9	11
6	Treasury	2,400	7	4	2,352	16	0
7	Customs	6,478	12	10	7,251	6	3
8	Post Office	3,053	13	6	3,115	4	9½
9	Printing	1,231	11	11	1,328	12	10
10	Audit	785	6	2	769	16	1
11	N.C.P. Force	21,372	11	2	30,196	2	2
12	Marine	22,097	6	4½	32,531	5	4
13	Prisons	6,038	4	11	7,200	9	6½
14	Botanical	1,255	4	11	1,171	8	5
15	Medical	10,129	11	3	9,272	14	8½
16	Sanitary	1,140	1	3	1,147	16	3
17	Transport	6,161	8	5½	5,729	13	11
18	Aborigines	7,115	0	9	8,236	13	0
19	Miscellaneous	9,346	9	10	11,006	13	4½
20	P. W. Dept. :—Surveyor-General...	3,437	3	0	3,896	16	2
21	" " Recurrent	5,565	0	5½	5,387	12	11
22	" " Extraordinary ...	14,406	12	4½	19,269	3	4
	Total	146,751	17	1½	176,140	8	7

L.

STATEMENT showing the total REVENUE and EXPENDITURE for five YEARS ending 31st March, 1900.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1895–96	155,513 9 2	145,044 8 4
1896–97	112,440 11 10½	128,411 8 0½
1897–98	153,181 8 0½	121,900 19 2
1898–99	169,567 18 11	146,751 17 1½
1899–1900	164,108 1 8½	176,140 8 7
Total	754,811 9 8½	718,249 1 3

M.

STATEMENT of ASSETS and LIABILITIES on 31st MARCH, 1900.

Assets.	£ s. d.	Amount. £ s. d.	Liabilities.	Amount. £ s. d.
Balance of the under-mentioned Accounts :—				
Local Cash Account	10,027 16 7½		Deposits due by the Protectorate	22,940 7 6
Crown Agents' Cash Account ...	7,877 18 7			
		17,905 15 2½	Drafts drawn on the Crown Agents (not yet paid)	127 4 4
Advances due to the Protectorate		4,086 1 11		
Remittances to Crown Agents (in transit).	16,654 5 2			
„ between Chests (in transit)	200 0 0			
		16,854 5 2		
Investments :—				
Yacht "Ivy" Depreciation Fund		5,340 18 1		
Amount deposited by Crown Agents at 7 days' notice.		18,470 0 0		
Amount lent at Interest by Crown Agents ...		27,500 0 0		
Total Assets		90,157 0 4½	Total Liabilities	23,067 11 10
Excess of Liabilities over Assets ...		—	Excess of Assets over Liabilities ...	67,089 8 6½
	£	90,157 0 4½	£	90,157 0 4½

N.

RETURN shewing the VALUE of IMPORTS from, and EXPORTS to, the undermentioned countries from APRIL 1, 1899, to MARCH 31, 1900, compared with the corresponding period of 1898–99.

Countries.	Imports.		Exports.		Total Trade.	
	1899–1900.	1898–99.	1899–1900.	1898–99.	1899–1900.	1898–99.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom... ...	597,998 9 4	583,067 4 5	531,088 14 8	500,367 15 8	1,129,087 4 0	1,083,435 0 1
France	—	—	47,136 3 5	21,487 3 10	47,136 3 5	21,487 3 10
Germany	59,043 0 0	51,330 16 8	308,180 1 11	251,003 8 3	367,223 1 11	302,334 4 11
Holland	50,458 4 2	77,260 14 7	8 0 0	—	50,466 4 2	77,260 14 7
Other countries	18,298 8 3	20,981 2 9	2,541 19 2	1,789 12 0	20,840 7 5	22,770 14 9
TOTAL £	725,798 1 9	732,639 18 5	888,954 19 2	774,647 19 9	1,614,753 0 11	1,507,287 18 2

O.

RETURN shewing the VALUE of IMPORTS and EXPORTS for FIVE YEARS:—viz. 1895–6, 1896–7, 1897–8, 1898–9, 1899–1900.

Financial Years.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
April 1, 1895, to March 31, 1896	750,975 0 4	844,333 2 9	1,595,308 3 1
„ 1896 „ 1897	655,977 18 4	785,605 5 3	1,441,583 3 7
„ 1897 „ 1898	639,698 12 7	750,223 8 11	1,389,922 1 6
„ 1898 „ 1899	732,639 18 5	774,647 19 9	1,507,287 18 2
„ 1899 „ 1900	725,798 1 9	888,954 19 2	1,614,753 0 11

Q.

Shipping Intelligence.

Return shewing Number and Tonnage of Vessels (sailing and steam) of each Nation which Entered and Cleared with Cargo and in Ballast in the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria from April 1, 1899, to March 31, 1900, and the corresponding period of 1898–1899.

Nationality of vessels.	1899–1900.				1898–1899.			
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British	140	199,640	140	199,848	132	176,277	133	176,570
German	11	15,604	11	15,604	12	15,697	12	15,697
Spanish	2	314	2	314	—	—	—	—
Swedish	—	—	—	—	1	293	—	—
Total... ...	153	215,558	153	215,766	145	192,267	145	192,267

Q1.

Shipping Intelligence.

Return shewing the aggregate **Number** and **Tonnage** of **Steam** and **Sailing Vessels** which entered and cleared in the **Protectorate** of **Southern Nigeria**, both **British** (Direct and Indirect) and **Foreign**, from April 1, 1899, to March 31, 1900, and the corresponding periods of 1898–99, 1897–98, 1896–97, and 1895–96.

Nationality.	1899-1900.				1898-1899.				1897-1898.				1896-1897.				1895-1896.			
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British	140	199,640	140	199,848	132	176,277	133	176,570	114	167,372	116	169,217	157	233,791	150	225,805	127	166,445	128	167,410
German	11	15,604	11	15,604	12	15,697	12	15,697	12	16,512	12	16,512	—	—	—	—	11	14,845	11	14,845
French	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1,585	1	1,585	19	16,498	19	16,498	3	3,911	3	3,911
Spanish	2	314	2	314	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Swedish	—	—	—	—	1	293	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	153	215,558	153	215,766	145	192,267	145	192,267	127	185,469	129	187,314	176	250,289	169	242,303	141	185,201	142	186,166

R.

Meteorological Return for the Year 1899–1900.

Month.	Temperature.						Rainfall.		Winds.		Remarks.
	Solar Maximum.	Minimum on Grass.	Shade Maximum.	Shade Minimum.	Range.	Mean.	Amount of Inches.	Degree of Humidity.	General Direction.	Average Force.	
January	—	—	92	70	22	81	1·67	79·7	N.W.	—	
February	—	—	97	70	27	83·5	5·40	78·2	N.W.	—	
March	—	—	97	71	26	84	5·80	81·2	S.W.	—	
April	—	—	97	70	27	83·5	9·87	—	S.W.	—	
May	—	—	95	70	25	82·5	13·32	—	S.W.	—	
June	—	—	91	70	21	80·5	9·33	—	S.W.	—	
July	—	—	92	71	21	81·5	12·17	71·3	S.W.	—	
August	—	—	88	70	18	79	20·72	87·4	S.W.	—	
September	—	—	90	70	20	80	10·94	81·0	S.W.	—	
October	—	—	90	70	20	80	6·28	82·4	S.W.	—	
November	—	—	89	71	18	80	9·71	84·7	N.W.	—	
December	—	—	88	72	16	80	0·34	82·3	N.W.	—	
Mean ...	—	—	92	70	21·75	81·27	8·79	60·6	—	—	

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No 353.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

REPORT FOR 1900.

(For Report for 1899-1900 *see* No. 315.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
April, 1902.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
326	Barbados	1900
327	Bahamas	,,
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
329	Malta	,,
330	Straits Settlements...	,,
331	Fiji	,,
332	St. Lucia	,,
333	Seychelles	,,
334	Falkland Islands	,,
335	Mauritius and Rodrigues	,,
336	British New Guinea	1899–1900
337	Leeward Islands	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
339	British Honduras	,,
340	Hong Kong	,,
341	Ceylon	,,
342	Gibraltar	,,
343	Basutoland	1900–1901
344	Gold Coast	1900
345	Grenada	,,
346	Northern Nigeria	1900–1901
347	British Solomon Islands	,,
348	Lagos	1900
349	British Guiana	1900–1901
350	St. Vincent	1900
351	Jamaica	1900–1901
352	Cocos Islands	1901

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1899-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.

No. 353.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

(For Report for 1899-1900, *see* No. 315).

HIGH COMMISSIONER SIR R. MOOR to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,
Old Calabar,
24th January, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward enclosed the Blue Book for the calendar year 1900 and Report thereon in duplicate. The instructions in your despatch of the 17th of September last required that the Blue Book should be confined to the calendar year, and as the Blue Book and the Report on receipt of your despatch mentioned were not completed, the change was at once made, as there was considerable advantage in starting it with the year 1900, the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria with its present area and administration having been inaugurated from the 1st of January in that year.

2. The Financial Returns in the Blue Book are dealt with for the financial year, 1st April, 1899, to 31st March 1900, and the Public Works Returns, being regarded as principally financial, have been treated in the same way.

3. The imports and exports include those for Northern Nigeria, and it has not been found possible to distinguish them in the year 1900, but instructions have been issued that in future years while the total imports and exports will be given together a separate return will show the imports and exports of Northern Nigeria. In future years also the imports and exports returns will be arranged in groups.

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SOUTHERN NIGERIA, 1900.

4. The delay in forwarding the Blue Book and Report thereon is due to the change that was made by your despatch above referred to at the time that the Blue Book and Annual Report were preparing for the financial year, so that entirely fresh returns had to be obtained. I hope in future years to furnish the Blue Book and Report thereon within four months of the termination of the year.

I have, &c.,

R. MOOR,

High Commissioner.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1900.

By the Southern Nigeria Order in Council, 1899, which came into operation on the 1st January, 1900, part of the territories of the Royal Niger Company, Chartered and Limited, was added to the Niger Coast Protectorate, and the combined territories were constituted into the Proectorate of Southern Nigeria, under the administration of a High Commissioner.

The statistical system which obtained in the Royal Niger Company differed from the system observed in the Niger Coast Protectorate Blue Books, and comparison is therefore impracticable between the figures in the Blue Book for 1900 and the statistics contained in the Blue Books of the Niger Coast Protectorate.

It has recently been decided that the Blue Books and other annual reports (except the financial reports) should be drawn up to cover the calendar year instead of the financial year (1st April to 31st March). As the Blue Book of the Protectorate for 1900 is, for the reason already given, the first of a series, its publication has been delayed in order that the statistics contained in it might as far as possible cover the calendar year. The change in the period covered by the Blue Book is, therefore, a second reason why no useful comparison can be made between its contents and those of previous reports.

FINANCIAL.

The Financial Returns in the Blue Book of 1900 relate to the period ending on the 31st March, 1900, and consequently do not wholly represent the statistics either of Southern Nigeria or of the Niger Coast Protectorate. The following table, however, shows, as far as can be shown by the yearly totals, the extent to

which the statistics have been altered by the inclusion of the Royal Niger Company's territories during the last quarter of the financial year:—

Revenue.

Heads of Revenue.	Totals for year ending March 31st, 1900.	Totals for year ending March 31st, 1899.
	£	£
Customs	156,491	160,669
Licences, &c.	775	656
Fees, &c.	3,358	3,719
Postal Revenue	1,397	1,688
Miscellaneous	2,085	2,833
Total	164,108	169,567
Decrease in year ending 31st March, 1900 ...	5,459	—

Expenditure.

Heads of Expenditure.	Total during year ending March 31st, 1900.	Total during year ending March 31st, 1899.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Pensions	280	1,630	—	1,350
Commissioner and Consul-General.	4,046	3,984	62	—
Secretary's Department ...	655	41	614	—
Political and Administrative staff.	20,327	18,246	2,081	—
Judicial Department ...	967	834	133	—
Survey „	—	—	—	—
Carried forward ...	26,275	24,735	2,890	1,350

Expenditure—*continued.*

Heads of Expenditure.	Total during year ending March 31st, 1900.	Total during year ending March 31st, 1899.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward ...	26,275	24,735	2,890	1,350
Treasury Department ...	2,352	2,400	—	48
Customs „	7,251	6,478	773	—
Post Office „	3,115	3,053	62	—
Printing „	1,328	1,231	97	—
Audit „	769	786	—	17
N.C.P. Force	30,196	21,372	8,824	—
Marine Department... ...	32,531	22,097	10,434	—
Prisons „	7,200	6,038	1,162	—
Botanical „	1,171	1,255	—	84
Medical „	9,272	10,129	—	857
Sanitary „	1,147	1,140	7	—
Transport „	5,729	6,161	—	432
Aborigines	8,236	7,115	1,121	—
Miscellaneous	11,006	9,346	1,660	—
Public Works Department...	3,896	3,437	459	—
„ „ Recurrent ...	5,387	5,565	—	178
„ „ Extraordinary	19,267	14,407	4,860	—
Total	176,128	146,745	32,349	2,966
Increase in period ending 31st March, 1900.	29,383	—	—	—

From the table of revenue it will be noticed that there was a decrease of £5,459 in the revenue of the year ending 31st March, 1900, as compared with the revenue of the previous year. The decrease is the more noteworthy because during the last quarter

of the year, duty was received in respect of the importations of the Niger Company. The amount of duty received at Akassa during the last quarter was £4,617, and probably a similar amount was collected at ports in the Western Division. But for this increase, the decrease mentioned above would therefore have been nearly £15,000. It has to be further remembered that *ad valorem* duties were levied during the last quarter of the year for the first time. The decrease can, however, be accounted for by the large decrease in the importations of gin and rum which was probably, in part, due to the large importation during 1898-99, as is shown by the following figures:—

——	1899-1900.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1896-97.
	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
Gin	614,298	960,944	857,802	598,073
Rum	164,208	324,161	266,969	253,289

Of the increase, £29,389, which took place during the year in the expenditure, £11,710 was due to increases in personal emoluments and £17,678 to expenditure on other charges. It will be seen, therefore, that as regards the period ending 31st March, 1900, the incorporation of territories of the Royal Niger Company produced relatively little change in the expenditure and revenue of the Protectorate.

Assets and Liabilities.

The financial year ending 31st March, 1899, showed an excess of assets over liabilities of £58,469, and on March 31st, 1900, this excess had increased to £67,089.

Of the latter sum, £27,500 was invested at interest, and a sum of £5,340 was set aside to meet the cost of making good depreciation in the yacht "Ivy," the balance consisting of cash, remittances in transit, etc.

Currency.

By universally accepted custom, the currency of the Protectorate is, as between persons who are not natives of the Protectorate, the British currency. The natives in dealings between themselves, use in different parts of the Protectorate brass rods, manillas, brass wire, gin, cloth, and tobacco. In transactions between or with Europeans, these articles cannot be regarded in any way as serving the purpose of a currency, their use in such transactions being merely an instance of barter. In the Benin territories, as in Lagos, cowries are used for small purchases, and may be regarded as acting as a currency to a limited extent.

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The absence of coin in the districts has made it necessary to recognise that orders of the Native Courts can be complied with by payment in manillas, brass rods, etc., and even in "trade goods," except gin. This custom probably originated with the provisions contained in Section CXI. of the Africa Order in Council, 1889.

The estimated average value of brass rods is 2½*d.*, of manillas, 1¼*d.*, and of wires, ⅛*d.* The value varies, however, not only in different districts but also at different times of the year. The use of "wires" is confined to parts of the Old Calabar and Cross River districts. In other districts the absence of a small medium of exchange is remedied in native transactions by sub-dividing tobacco, gin, etc.

By the "Amended Customs Tariff Proclamation of 1900," silver of the realm (meaning of course the United Kingdom) not being of the established standard in weight or fineness is absolutely prohibited from importation.

During 1900 specie was imported to the value of £135,309. The importations of specie into the Niger Coast Protectorate during the years 1897-98, 1898-99, 1899-1900, were £29,202, £29,290, and £36,372, respectively. Practically there was no exportation of specie during 1900.

TAXATION.

The Customs duties during the year were collected under Proclamation No. 2 of 1900, by which the previous tariff was repealed. The duties levied under this law include a comparatively short list of specific duties, the principal items in which are unmanufactured tobacco, 3*d.* per lb.; salt, 20*s.* per ton; gunpowder, 6*d.* per lb.; flint lock guns, 2*s.* 6*d.* each; and spirits, 3*s.* per gallon. Subject to the "free" list, which includes building materials, cooper's stores, mining and sawing machinery, etc., all the importations not included in the specific duty list were made liable to an *ad valorem* duty of 5 per cent. The law provided that the territories of Lagos, Northern Nigeria, and Southern Nigeria should for Customs purposes be regarded as one territory. Chiefly in connection with the latter provision an amending law was necessary and was prepared (The Amended Customs Tariff Proclamation, 1900, No. 28 of 1900), but as the law did not come into operation until the 1st January, 1901, it is unnecessary to detail its provisions here.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

From the summary given below it will be noticed that the exports and imports in 1900 nearly balanced one another, there being a surplus of £18,021 only of exports over imports. This

surplus, however, is only arrived at by including in the imports the sum of £135,309, the amount of specie imported. As there was practically no export of specie, the figures in reality show that the value of the imports exceeded the value of the exports by over £100,000.

The following table also shows that the exports from the Protectorate to foreign countries was very largely in excess of the imports from those countries. This large excess is due to the large quantity of palm kernels shipped to Germany, and in a minor degree to the palm oil shipped to France.

In the case of the United Kingdom, the imports into the Protectorate were, unlike those from foreign countries, in excess of the exports from the Protectorate. This surplus of imports over exports is largely due to the fact that £130,850 specie was imported from the United Kingdom.

Summary of Exports and Imports in 1900.

	£
Total exports	1,133,604
Total imports	1,115,583
Surplus of exports ...	18,021
United Kingdom—	
Imports from	927,905
Exports to	672,900
Surplus of imports ...	255,005
British Colonies—	
Imports from	6,256
Exports to	215
Surplus of exports ...	6,041
Foreign Countries—	
Exports from	460,483
Imports to	181,421
Surplus of exports ...	279,067

——	Imports from.	Exports to.
	£	£
Germany	87,489	385,806
Holland	83,378	8
United States of America.	6,053	—
Spain	3,212	—
France	—	74,156

The following tables show the principal imports and exports to and from different countries. Kerosene and lamp oil to the value of £6,047 was imported from the United States, and £1,665 of kerosene and lamp oils and £4,459 of specie reached the Protectorate from Grand Canary. With these exceptions the principal importations were confined to imports from the United Kingdom, Germany, and Holland, and the principal exports to those sent to the United Kingdom, Germany, and France.

It will be noticed that the importation of perfumery from Germany largely exceeds the importation from the United Kingdom. The importation of gin and Geneva from Holland and Germany and the liquors from Germany complete the list of cases in which the imports from the United Kingdom were exceeded by the imports from other countries.

Table showing the principal Imports into the Protectorate and the Countries whence imported.

Article.	Value.	United Kingdom.	Germany.	Holland.
	£	£	£	£
Ale, beer, porter, cider, &c.	4,176	2,076	2,079	17
Bags and sacks	11,810	10,908	894	—
Beads	11,582	8,963	2,380	11
Beef and pork	8,752	8,684	68	—
Building materials ...	45,653	42,337	2,809	419
Boats and canoes	5,715	5,336	143	—
Bread and biscuit	5,739	5,736	—	—

Imports—continued.

Article.	Value.	United Kingdom.	Germany,	Holland.
	£	£	£	£
Coal	19,496	17,114	1,292	1,089
Cooper's stores	65,695	61,581	414	3,700
Cotton goods...	274,249	271,477	2,037	475
Earthenware	9,932	8,858	1,066	—
Furniture	7,210	5,678	1,375	3
Dane guns	8,853	4,187	641	4,010
Gunpowder	7,358	7,029	329	—
Haberdashery	4,472	4,389	31	—
Hardware and cutlery ...	52,157	36,848	10,305	4,493
Kerosene and lamp oils ...	7,919	167	40	—
Perfumery	2,619	529	2,062	25
Pipes	2,020	1,372	34	110
Provisions	32,210	28,530	2,438	44
Rice	18,856	17,122	1,689	—
Salt...	34,115	34,115	—	—
Silk goods	20,924	17,290	3,600	—
Soap	9,443	9,251	189	—
Brandy	720	631	79	1
Gin and Geneva	99,118	1,523	30,342	67,250
Liqueurs	915	116	798	—
Rum	13,438	2,502	10,083	18
Whiskey	5,135	5,064	46	—
Wines	6,001	5,432	264	1
Tobacco, unmanufactured ...	67,638	67,588	49	—
Umbrellas	6,157	5,747	394	—
Wearing apparel	28,950	27,616	1,115	88
Specie	135,309	130,850	—	—

SOUTHERN NIGERIA, 1900.

Table showing the principal Exports and the Countries to which exported.

Article.	Value.	United Kingdom.	Germany.	France.
	£	£	£	£
Cocoa	2,709	2,489	220	—
Coffee	725	709	16	—
Ebony	1,665	1,558	106	—
Fibre	2,922	2,922	—	—
Ground Nuts ...	3,704	3,704	—	—
Gum Copal ...	1,513	1,512	1	—
Ivory	13,794	12,872	922	—
Native Timber ...	7,013	6,792	221	—
Miscellaneous Products.	37,091	33,716	66	3,276
Palm Kernels ...	430,016	83,019	346,997	—
Palm Kernel Shells	637	637	—	—
Palm Oil	491,131	392,156	28,094	70,880
Rubber	137,289	128,440	8,848	—
Specie	20	20	—	—

No change in the direction of trade appears to have taken place. The import and export returns contained in the Blue Book for 1900 include the imports into and exports from Northern Nigeria. This fact accounts for the amount of gum copal exported and also for the large exports in ivory. But with these two exceptions there is nothing to show that the export returns have been greatly increased by exports from Northern Nigeria.

The following table shows the principal imports and exports into and from the Niger Coast Protectorate during the years 1897-98, 1898-99, and 1899-1900.

The decrease in the value of manufactured tobacco during the year 1899-1900 was attributed to larger importations of manufactured tobacco. The decrease has not, however, continued, as the foregoing table shows that £67,6[illegible] of unmanufactured tobacco was imported during 1900.

Imports.

Article.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1899-1900.
	£	£	£
Specie	29,202	29,290	36,372
Cotton goods	156,880	198,763	194,281
Gin and Geneva	65,193	81,020	85,469
Tobacco, unmanufactured ...	57,324	60,898	27,864
Cooper's stores	50,970	44,396	50,816
Building Materials	11,174	16,785	18,954
Hardware and cutlery	37,849	32,319	30,733
Wearing apparel	17,878	24,427	22,902
Salt	10,992	9,098	18,448
Provisions	17,368	19,200	21,193

Exports.

Article.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1899-1900.
	£	£	£
Palm Kernels	295,544	305,791	340,218
Palm oil	410,133	397,868	420,680
Rubber	32,959	60,607	105,116
Ivory	2,530	2,589	3,326
Ebony	2,291	739	229

AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY.

The Botanical Gardens are situated at Old Calabar. Largely owing to the ease with which the collection of oil and nuts provides for the requirements of their lives, the natives do not readily attempt to grow or collect other products. To a limited extent the Botanical Gardens have been successful in distributing young coffee and cocoa plants.

With the object of supplying rubber seedlings for transplantation into the forest lands between villages, twenty large

SOUTHERN NIGERIA, 1900.

nurseries for young rubber were established during the year in the Benin territories. These nurseries were supplied by the rubber seed collected during 1899. The labour of transplanting and subsequently caring for the young rubber will be performed, subject to the supervision of the Forestry Inspectors, by the inhabitants of those villages which will ultimately be enriched by the matured rubber.

Twenty timber concessions were granted during the year, and a large number of licences to collect rubber were issued in the Benin territories, and the fees in connection with these amounted to over £700. The timber (mahogany) cut was in some cases too small, and the conditions of the concessions and licences were not strictly adhered to, with the result that further legislation and organisation was decided upon but could not be carried out during the year.

During the year two large beds of honckeya were planted in the Botanical Gardens, and 100 plants were sent by request to the Botanical Gardens at Aburi, on the Gold Coast. Fifty mango plants (including No. 11, Peach, Mistake, Gordon, Malda, and Peters) were imported from Trinidad, and of these 36 have grown.

The plantations of the Royal Niger Company on the Niger were taken over by the Protectorate. With the exception of a small area of cocoa the plantations were devoted to coffee cultivation, and the number of trees at each place will be found in the appendix to this report.

SHIPPING.

The total number of steam vessels that cleared from ports in the Protectorate during 1900 was 638 (tonnage, 924,124; crew, 25,965). During the year 645 entered (tonnage, 940,389; crew, 25,400). Of these vessels, all were British except 26 foreign vessels (tonnage, 33,853; crew, 596) which cleared, and 22 (tonnage, 33,014; crew, 712) which entered.

These figures show that vessels entering the ports of the Protectorate have relatively smaller crews than when clearing, and that this difference is most marked in the case of foreign steamers.

During the year 18 British steamers and 1 foreign steamer entered in ballast, and 24 and 1 cleared in ballast respectively.

Of the foreign steamers 1 was Spanish and the remainder German.

Of the foreign steamers, 11 came from Germany and 1 from Fernando Po. The same number of foreign steamers cleared for Germany and Fernando Po, and in addition to these 1 cleared for Grand Canary.

The British steamers that cleared and entered included 115 and 114 Lagos steamers respectively. A large proportion of

these must have been the branch steamers by which the cargo is taken between Lagos and Forcados, at which latter place the Lagos cargo is transhipped to or from ocean-going steamers.

Of the remainder of the British steamers, 28 entered from Germany and 2 from Belgium; 26 cleared for Germany, 2 for the United States of America (both in ballast). The remainder of the British steamers cleared for (82) or entered from (88) the United Kingdom.

Only 4 sailing vessels entered the ports of the Protectorate and only 2 cleared.

The sailing vessels were all foreign.

LEGISLATION.

The Southern Nigeria Order in Council 1899 (*see* beginning of this report) gave law-making powers to the High Commissioner subject, of course, to the pleasure of the Crown. On January 1st, 1900, it became necessary to enact laws for the government of the Protectorate. The "Ordinance Extension Proclamation of 1900" was accordingly passed, by which the Niger Coast Protectorate laws mentioned in the schedule to the Proclamation were made to extend and apply to the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria. By the Company's Regulations Repealing Proclamation, 1900, the laws of the Royal Niger Company were repealed.

By the end of April, 1900, twenty Proclamations were passed which were necessary for the proper constitution of the Protectorate. The most important of these laws was perhaps the Supreme Court Proclamation, by which a Supreme Court was established with the same jurisdiction, so far as local circumstances permit, as is vested in the High Court of Justice in England. The law contained a provision to the effect that its terms should not deprive the Court of the right to observe and enforce the observance, nor should deprive any person of the benefit of any law or custom existing in the Protectorate and not repugnant to natural justice, equity, and good conscience. This law was supplemented firstly by the "Commissioners Proclamation," by which, subject to limits therein specified, the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court was conferred on District Courts, and secondly by the Criminal Procedure Proclamation, which is binding on the Supreme Court and the District Courts.

By the "Native Courts Proclamation," Native Courts were constituted with a criminal and civil jurisdiction, in which cases wherein natives only are concerned can be disposed of by natives under the supervision of a District Commissioner who is *ex officio* President of all Native Courts in his district.

During the year laws were passed regulating prisons,

SOUTHERN NIGERIA, 1900.

marriages, patents, trade marks, the importation of spirituous liquors, and the navigation of the Niger.

By the Trade Credit Proclamation, no Court can enforce against a native any obligation of a commercial character based on credit, which has been incurred by him towards a person who is not a native of the Protectorate. By the Folded Woven Goods Proclamation, the importation is prohibited of folded woven goods unless the latter are folded in folds of not less than 36 inches in length, and unless each piece is marked so as to show its length. By Proclamation No. 1 of 1900, no person not being a native can acquire directly or indirectly any right or interest in land without the consent of the High Commissioner.

EDUCATION.

There is no secondary education in the Protectorate, and the primary education is limited to the schools connected with the churches and missions, with the exception of the Eyamba School at Duke Town, Old Calabar, which is managed by a committee of natives. In the schools at Old Calabar and Onitsha, industrial education is combined with primary education.

An important step was taken by the Government in commencing a scheme by which it is hoped that industrial education may be combined with primary education in many places throughout the Protectorate. The scheme met with strong support from the merchants and from Messrs. Elder, Dempster and Company and native chiefs. The first institution of the kind was established at Ogugumanga, near Bonny, where a site and building were granted for the purpose of the new educational institute by the merchants. The revenue amounted to £923 10*s*., of which £240 was granted by the Government, £31 10*s*. was given by Messrs. Elder, Dempster and Company, £450 was collected from donations from the chiefs of Bonny, Opobo, and New Calabar, and the balance, £202, from school fees.

Pupils at the institution have to enter for a term of not less than five years, and accommodation is provided both for day pupils and boarders. The curriculum, as already stated, is confined to primary education, but a payment of 7*s*. 6*d*. a quarter (for each subject) enables the pupils to obtain tuition in book-keeping, shorthand, mathematics, and music.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

The only hospitals are the European Hospital and the Native Hospital at Old Calabar. In the districts, however, a very large number of cases are treated as extra patients

The following table shows the death rate and the invaliding

rate of Europeans.* The proportions are based upon the estimated average number of Europeans (namely, 316) in the Protectorate.

Class.	Number.	Died.	Invalided.	Death rate per 1,000.	Invaliding rate per 1,000.
Officials ...	101	7	12	69·34	118·71
Non-Officials...	215	13	26	60·46	120·93
Total (or mean rate.)	316	20	38	63·29	120·25

The greatest number of deaths and of persons invalided was at Old Calabar, where the numbers during the year were 6 and 8 respectively; but as Europeans naturally endeavour when ill to get to Old Calabar in order to benefit by being nursed in the European Hospital, it does not at all follow that Old Calabar is an unhealthy station. At Asaba there were 4 deaths and 7 persons invalided.

At the European Hospital, 79 cases were treated, of which, as just stated, 6 ended in death. There were 32 cases of malarial fever, 8 of hæmoglobinuria, or blackwater fever, and 37 of unclassified fevers.

In St. Margaret Hospital (Native), 551 cases were treated, of which 30 ended in death. The following are the numbers of cases of the most prevalent diseases:—

Diseases of respiratory system	75
Diseases of digestive system	56
Varicella	54
Diseases of connective tissue	49
Local injuries	46

Special reports were made on three cases of exceptional interest, one of hemiplegia, reported on by Dr. R. A. Bennett; one of a fever resembling scarlatina, reported on by Dr. E. J. Moore; and a case of ankylostomiasis, reported on by Dr. R. A. Shekleton.

In all the stations as well as in Old Calabar much attention was given to the drainage of spots likely to breed *anopheles* (mosquitos).

In Old Calabar a system of water supply was begun but not actually completed within the year. Works were also begun at Old Calabar by which the sewage will be disposed of on Moule's system.*

* These figures are for the year ending March 31st, 1901.

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Prisons.

There are two large prisons, one at Old Calabar and one at Asaba. At Degama, Sapele, and Benin City there are district prisons, and at the other stations in the Protectorate there are "lock-up" houses.

Under the Prisons Proclamation the mark system was introduced, and has worked satisfactorily. There were 765 prisoners committed during the year ending March, 1901, throughout the Protectorate, of whom 3 per cent. were female, and 4 per cent. juveniles. Only 20 persons were imprisoned for more than five years, 380 were committed for three months or less, and the remainder were sentenced for terms exceeding three months but under five years.

The cost of feeding and clothing the prisoners amounted to £2,632, and the estimated value of the work done by them was £3,238, an amount based on the supposition that the work done by a prisoner at hard labour (grass cutting, birch making, road making, sanitary work, etc.) is worth 9*d.* per day, and that the work done by those at light labour is worth 6*d.* per day.

There were 38 escapes, of whom 23 were recaptured.

Criminal Statistics.

During the year 1900, the number of informations in the Supreme Court amounted to 31, and resulted in 4 acquittals and 27 convictions.

The number of offences reported to the District Commissioners (who are in charge of the Court Messengers, *i.e.*, the local police) was 496. Of the cases reported, 356 were convicted summarily, 98 were acquitted, 11 were discharged for want of evidence, and the remainder were dealt with in the Supreme Court.

The following table shows how the 356 cases of convictions were dealt with and also the crimes committed:—

—	Total number of cases.	Assaults.	Offences against property, other than malicious injury to property.	Offences against revenue, &c.	Other offences.
Fine	88	24	—	9	55
Imprisonment in lieu of payment of fine.	4	—	—	1	3
Peremptory imprisonment.	243	52	117	9	65
Whipping ...	6	1	2	—	3
Bound over or other trivial punishment.	15	9	—	—	6
Total ...	356	86	119	19	132

The figures only cover the period from April 1st, 1900 (when the new laws began to operate) to the end of the year.

There are no records of the criminal cases disposed of by the Native Courts.

Meteorological Observations.

The returns for 1900 relate to one station only, namely Old Calabar.

On only three days during the year was there an absence of wind, the latter, however, was by no means constant throughout the day, there having been 179 days when it was calm at 7 a.m., 118 days when it was calm at 1 p.m., and 102 days when there was no wind at 9 p.m. The wind was most apt to fall away in the months of August, July, December, and January, and the mean air temperature was lowest in August, July, and January. December and January were the driest months.

Month.	Mean air temperature.	Periods of calm at 7 a.m., 1 p.m., 9 p.m. or at two or all of those times.	Mean tension of vapour.	Mean relative humidity.	Rainfall.
January	83·8	35	·780	79·7	1·67
February	84·8	26	·864	77·7	5·40
March	84·8	30	·879	81·9	5·80
April	82·3	33	·833	83·5	13·50
May	81·7	29	·859	84·0	4·59
June	80·8	26	·833	84·4	32·59
July	77·8	49	·802	85·7	13·63
August	77·	43	·807	88·1	6·39
September	80·4	27	·820	89·07	11·84
October...	82·3	27	·793	83·5	9·38
November	82·5	29	·862	83·8	11·34
December	81·96	45	·834	83·6	1·30
Year	81·70	—	·830	83·42	117·45

SOUTHERN NIGERIA, 1900.

Post Office.

The chief office is at Old Calabar; there are 11 district offices and 6 postal agencies.

The gross postal revenue during 1900 was £1,786, of which £141 was commission on money orders, and £4 was the value of unclaimed money orders. The cost of the postal service within the Protectorate was £2,855. The cost of conveyance of mails beyond the Protectorate was £435.

Statement of estimated total number of Letters &c., dealt with during 1900.

—	Internal.	United Kingdom.		Total.
		From	To	
Letters and Post cards.	188,796	89,639	90,935	369,370
Newspapers, Book Packets, &c.	29,680	70,179	4,207	104,066
Parcels	5,033	3,085	1,381	9,499

—	Money Orders issued in Protectorate.	Money Orders received in Protectorate.
	£	£
United Kingdom ...	4,812	335
West African Colonies...	5,296	172
Internal	1,008	1,019

Military Forces and Expenditure.

On the 1st January, 1900, the military force of the Protectorate was raised from 550 to an establishment of 1,050. Part of the arrangement by which the territories of the Royal Niger Company were transferred to the Protectorate was that a portion of the Royal Niger Company's forces, amounting to an establishment of 500 men with arms and ammunition should be taken over by the Protectorate. The increased establishment thus authorised was organised in accordance with the general

recommendations of the Committee who reported in 1899 upon the Amalgamation of the Colonial Military Forces in West Africa. The change necessitated the force being re-armed with the Martini-Enfield carbine (artillery pattern ·303 calibre), and an increase in the number of officers from 17 to 29. The force thus established became the 3rd (Niger) Battalion of the West African Frontier Force.

The expenditure during 1900 amounted to £30,196, of which £23,632 was spent on pay and allowances, and the balance, £6,564, on other charges, the chief items in which were £1,352, cost of clothing, accoutrements and necessaries, and £3,767, the cost of ammunition and purchase and repairs of arms.

Public Works.

The returns of expenditure on Public Works cover the year ending 31st March, 1900.

The following are works completed during that period:—

——	Estimated cost	Actual cost.
	£	£
Public works house annex	200	351
Native Prisons	—	21
Native rest houses	200	136
Upkeep of break-water Opobo ...	100	72
" " " Bonny ...	50	16
Extension of temporary building used as post office.	100	97
Moveable brickmaking plant at Old Calabar River.	150	481
Native hospital	—	95
House for Treasury officials	—	277
House for Customs officials at Brass...	—	105
Quarters for native staff, Cross River	50	65
Bridge across creek	—	271

The new prison was begun but not finished, the expenditure during the year being £3,770.

The breakwater at Old Calabar (Quay Wall Works) which is being constructed under the supervision of Messrs. Coode, Son & Matthews, made good progress at a cost of £8,250.

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The Benin City officers' quarters were nearly completed at a cost of £2,641. The sum of £1,026 was spent on the new house for judicial officers out of £1,800, the estimated cost for completion.

£2,448 was spent on current repairs to public buildings.

Staff.

On December 31st, 1900, there were 374 officers employed in the Protectorate who had given bond for the proper discharge of their duties. The security given was that prescribed by the Public Officers' Guarantee Fund Proclamation, 1900.

LESLIE PROBYN,
Secretary.

January 15, 1902.

Appendix showing the number of coffee plants in the plantations on the Niger which were transferred to the Protectorate by the Royal Niger Company.

Number of Coffee Plants on the plantations at Abutshi and Onitsha.

Name of plantation.	Name of plants	In permanent places.	In Beds.
Abutshi	Liberian Coffee	11,863	4,989
do.	Cocoa	612	40
Nkissi	Liberian Coffee	72,690	—
do.	Arabian ,,	140	380
do.	Rio Pongo ,,	1,200	—
do.	Cocoa	30	—
Akpakka	Liberian Coffee	16,200	3,610
do.	Arabian ,,	400	—
do.	Cocoa	364	600
The Creek	Liberian Coffee	15,030	13,350

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REPORT FOR 1901.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 353.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
February 1903.

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1903.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
357	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1901
358	Malta	"
359	Gibraltar	"
360	Straits Settlements	"
361	Sierra Leone	"
362	British Honduras	"
363	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
364	Seychelles	"
365	Bahamas...	1901–1902
366	Fiji	1901
367	Ceylon	"
368	Barbados	1901–1902
369	Hong Kong	1901
370	Cocos Islands	1902
371	St. Helena	1901
372	British Solomon Islands	1901–1902
373	Jamaica	"
374	Leeward Islands	"
375	Gold Coast	1901
376	Grenada	"
377	Northern Nigeria	1901
378	British Guiana	1901–1902
379	Mauritius	1901
380	Basutoland	1901–1902

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand...	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas...	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific...	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas...	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies... ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Wei Hai Wei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.

No. 381.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 353.)

HIGH COMMISSIONER SIR R. MOOR to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,

Old Calabar,

7th October, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that under separate cover I am forwarding two copies of the Blue Book for 1901, and enclosed are two copies of the Report on same prepared by the Assistant Secretary, Mr. H. Bedwell.

2. Little comment is required beyond the Report drawn up by Mr. Bedwell, which deals with all matters of interest. I may, however, call attention to the General Observations on the "Future prospects of trade" and "Openings for investment of Capital." The doing away with the middleman in commerce in West Africa is continually referred to, but often, I think, without due appreciation of the position. There are two classes of middleman—or rather were two classes. One, the native who stopped the waterways or roads and insisted on all traffic whether in trade goods or produce being done through the people of his town. This class of middleman has been done away with in the opening up and freeing of the waterways and roads. The other class of middleman is a necessary factor in the conduct of commerce, being the carrier who takes the trade goods to the producer's markets and exchanges them for produce which he brings down to the European factories for shipment. The profit on this transaction represents merely the cost of carriage. The middleman carrier, now that the country is freely opened up, is not nearly equal to dealing with the large volume of produce which can be got out of this country. He cannot transport the trade goods to all areas from which produce is obtainable to provide the necessary inducement to the natives to collect the produce. In fact he

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really only deals with the fringe of the principal producing areas and does not in any sense fully exploit them. Recent changes in the social conditions of the natives of these territories, particularly with regard to slavery, render it certain that the capacity of these native carriers for their transport work is not likely to increase, at all events for some years to come, until a good native labour market is established, and there is a possibility of a direct falling off in this means of transport. Under these circumstances some other form of transport must be devised. A very large increase in the output of produce will result when the necessary inducements are offered in the localities where such produce exists to encourage the natives to gather it and to provide them with a means of sending it to market. To do this there is room for the employment of considerably more capital if those engaged in trade will take steps to get into direct touch with the producers and provide their own transport from and to the ocean-going steamers in the various ports. There are excellent waterways in this Protectorate providing every facility for steam transport, and if the output of the volume of produce is to increase, the merchants will have to provide a system of transport on the larger and most suitable waterways leaving the smaller ones unsuitable for steam transport to be dealt with by the existing native carriers. Such action on the part of the Europeans will not actually damage the native middleman carrier, but merely drive him farther afield to open up fresh produce markets. In providing a system of steam transport the European traders will of course have to make depôts on the larger waterways so that in effect the middleman carriers will not have any farther to travel and carry the trade goods and produce than they now have. The country requires transport to open it up beyond that which can be provided by the natives, and to provide this European capital is required, Nature having provided the necessary waterways.

I am, &c.,

R. Moor,

High Commissioner.

BLUE BOOK REPORT, 1901.

The Report for 1901 is the second of the series in which all Reports (with the exception of the Financial Report, which is for the period 1st April, 1900—31st March, 1901) are drawn up to cover the Calendar year. It is, therefore, possible to make accurate comparison between the present returns and those contained in the preceding Report.

FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure (1900–01).

Revenue.

The total Revenue was £380,894 9*s.* 9*d.* (*see* Table A.) shewing an increase of £216,788 on the Revenue for the previous financial year. This is due to the taking over of the territories of the Royal Niger Company on the 1st of January, 1900, and the revenue derived from the trade therein (inclusive of that in Northern Nigeria) also to the development and increase of trade throughout the entire territories. The increase is general under every heading. By the development of the timber trade the revenue under licences was almost doubled. A large increase in the sale of stamps more than doubled the postal revenue, while sundry and petty receipts and interest on invested capital increased the miscellaneous revenue by £5,403.

The approximate revenue collected for Northern Nigeria amounted to £11,266.

Of the total amount of revenue received, viz.: £380,894, the Customs collected £362,472, of which amount £334,433 was on account of specific duty.

Expenditure.

By table B, it will be seen that there has been a general increase in expenditure compared with the previous year under all headings, consequent on the administration of that portion of the Royal Niger Company's Territories included in Southern Nigeria, and on expansion and development. The total expenditure amounted to £306,192, shewing an increase of £130,000 of which the Marine Department expended nearly £35,000 in providing transport for the Niger River and increased transport generally. Provision was made at the cost of about £8,000 for two new launches, and the gunboat "Jackdaw" caused additional expenditure. The principal supplementary items required were £1,500 for purchase and upkeep of lighters, &c. —£9,700 for repairs to the Government yacht, and coal required an additional £5,000, while launch engineering stores and hire of special transport amounted to nearly £2,000.

The Public Works Department shews an increased expenditure of £18,000 under various heads. A supplementary expenditure of over £1,000 was required under Public Works Department Recurrent. Provision was made to the extent of £15,000 for current expenditure on the quay wall works.

Under Public Works Extraordinary £2,300 was required for an engine and force pump, &c., in connection with the supply of spring water to the Barracks, &c. £2,000 was expended on the sanitary dry earth system at Old Calabar and the drainage works at Duke Town. In connection with the establishment of a Customs House and quarters at Burutu an expenditure of nearly £7,000 was incurred.

Under "Miscellaneous" there is shown an increased expenditure of over £44,000 which includes the Protectorate's share of the contribution to the Government of Northern Nigeria, viz.: £34,000.

Of the increase (£130,052 9*s.* 6*d.*) which took place during the year in the expenditure, £27,030 16*s.* 6½*d.* was due to increases in personal emoluments, and £103,021 12*s.* 11½*d.* to expenditure on "other charges."

The heads of Increase are shown separately in Table Ia.

In Table C will be seen the total revenue and expenditure for the past five years.

Assets and Liabilities.

An excess of assets over liabilities of £144,177 is shewn for the year ending March 31, 1901, the excess of assets for the corresponding day of the previous year was £67,089. Of the £144,177 the sum of £64,517 was invested at interest or deposited by the Crown Agents, with the exception of £7,918 set aside for specific services; the balance of the Assets being made up of cash in hand or in transit.

Currency.

British coins form the currency of the Protectorate with the exception that the native-born use a medium of exchange which varies with the particular district. Though the principle of cash trading between European and native extends every year, it will be a very considerable time before the present system of barter ceases.

Brass rods, manillas, and copper wires (cheethams) valued respectively at, approximately, 3*d.*, ¾*d.*, $\frac{1}{7}d.$, are used for transactions between natives—and for payments under native Courts—but every year sees a larger distribution of cash as the further parts of the Protectorate become developed. During the late months of the year cash was introduced throughout a large area in the Aro Country, between the Cross River and

the Niger, and efforts were made to supplant native currency by cash with considerable success.

Importation of Specie.

1897–1898.	1898–1899.	1899–1900.	1900–1901.	1901–1902.
£ 29,202	£ 29,290	£ 36,372	£ 182,386	£ 182,266

Specie was exported to the amount of £27,600 to the United Kingdom and £7,360 to other countries.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY.

Imports and Exports.

The Customs Duties during the previous year were collected under Proclamation No. 2 of 1900. This was amended by the Amended Customs Tariff Proclamation No. 28 of 1900, which came into operation on 1st January, 1901.

Among the items in the specific list on which duty was increased were manufactured and unmanufactured Tobacco, rising from 6*d*. and 3*d*. per lb. to 8*d*. and 4*d*., respectively.

The list of exemptions was practically the same as before. "Folded Woven Goods folded otherwise than in compliance with the Folded Woven Goods Proclamation No. 19 of 1900," were necessarily added to the prohibition list.

There was an amending Proclamation passed during the year entitled the "Customs Tariff Amendment Proclamation 1901." Under this Proclamation, which came into force on 1st April, 1901, an *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. was imposed on all goods not enumerated in the free list or included under "Specific." This resulted in an increase in the receipts derived from customs duties for the calendar year of £21,981—which amount as shewn in the table (Table D) is almost entirely derived from *ad valorem* duties.

There is a surplus in value of Imports over Exports (*vide* Table E) of £43,410. It will be seen that the surplus of Imports over Exports to the United Kingdom shows an increase of over £19,000, the total volume of trade shewing an increase of £301,635 over that of the previous year.

As usual, the Exports to foreign countries were largely in excess of Imports from them—shewing a total surplus of £228,080. By Table F will be seen that Imports from Ger-

many, Holland, and France shew an increase, that Exports from Germany and Holland shew a large increase, while those from France shew a large decrease. The amount of Specie imported for the year from the United Kingdom amounted to £177,447, and the Export thereof to the United Kingdom to £27,600.

The fact that the Exports to foreign countries are so largely in excess of the Imports from them is explained by the very large shipments of produce (palm kernels) to Germany.

The principal Imports and Exports are tabulated in Tables G and H, which shew also the figures for the previous year in each case.

Noticeable Imports from countries other than the United Kingdom include, as before, kerosine and lamp oil to the value of £4,830, practically all imported from the United States (over £2,000 less in value than in the previous year); cotton goods to the value of £4,976 from Germany (an increase of nearly £3,000) and £1,960 from Holland as against £475 of the previous year.

There is a noticeable increase under "Cooper's Stores" in the case of Holland, shewing nearly double the value of that for the year 1900. A somewhat curious decrease on the other hand appears under "Beef and Pork" in the importations from Germany—value falling from £2,380 to £155; there being apparently less demand.

The principal Imports continue to be those from the United Kingdom, Germany, and Holland, and the principal Exports those to the United Kingdom, Germany, and France.

The importation of gin and geneva is greatest from Holland as before, being almost double that from Germany. Liqueurs are principally imported from Germany, also rum, though for the latter the demand is declining, the total value imported being some £4,000 less in value than in the previous year. Perfumery (which was almost entirely imported from Germany) shews only an excess of £400 over the importation from the United Kingdom, as against an excess of some £1,500 for the previous year; the decrease on the total value imported amounting to £962. There is no change in the articles the importation of which from other countries exceeds that from the United Kingdom, and the direction of trade would appear to have remained unaltered.

Tables I and J give the duty collected in the Protectorate on goods consigned to Northern Nigeria, and the list of Exports, from Northern Nigeria for the year ending 31st December, 1901. Shea nuts, rubber, and gum arabic shew a large increase. Ground-nuts and shea butter a large decrease. The duty paid on merchandise entering Northern Nigeria shews an increase of £1,900 over that of the previous year.

Tables K and L shew the total Imports and Exports for the last five years.

Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations.

The development of the nurseries lately established for the supply of rubber seedlings has been the principal work done in the year under review. Transplantation has not been very extensive owing to the seedlings not being hardened sufficiently for removal, and requiring to await the beginning of the rains for the necessary moisture. Over three million seeds have been collected to take the place of the existing seedlings when transplanted.

The timber industry, though still in its infancy in this Protectorate, already shews satisfactory results: 3,000 logs of mahogany were shipped from the Western Division of the Protectorate alone, representing a value of some £90,000. The industry not being yet three years old, this result must be considered a fair beginning.

Botanical Stations exist at Old Calabar and Onitsha. Extensive developments are in progress at the latter station under the supervision of a European officer of practical experience. Necessary machinery has been arranged for and satisfactory progress generally been made. Coffee was sold and exported to England in small quantities—and a satisfactory increase in this respect is looked for under the efficient supervision now given to it.

Shipping.

In Table M below will be seen the comparative statement of the entering and clearing of steam vessels for 1900 and 1901.

During the year 1901 31 steamers entered in ballast—all British: 34 cleared in ballast: 32 British and 2 foreign.

Of 192 British vessels, 92 cleared for the United Kingdom, 29 for Germany, 70 for Lagos (branch-boat service to Forcados), and 1 for Cameroons.

Among foreign vessels 20 cleared for Germany, 1 for France, 1 for Congo, 7 for the Cameroons, and 1 for Loango. One American sailing vessel entered: and 1 foreign cleared for the West Indies during the year.

In Table M vessels are dealt with and enumerated with respect to every port in the Protectorate entered.

In Table N will be seen a statement covering the last five years—showing the number and tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared at ports in the Protectorate.

LEGISLATION.

28 Proclamations were enacted during the year 1901 under which 11 Orders and 4 Rules were made.

Laws were passed affecting the Customs Tariff, Folded Woven Goods, Criminal Procedure, Commissioners, Patents, Marriages, and Prisons.

In the Criminal Procedure Amendment Proclamation are prescribed the conditions precedent to the trial of foreigners for offences committed in Protectorate waters, and the control of the Crown in criminal proceedings is more clearly defined. The trial of serious criminal offences with the aid of Assessors is regulated, and the procedure to be followed in the trial of alleged lunatics is laid down. Very important powers are given to the High Commissioner, under which, if local circumstances appear to justify it, a special Court may be formed at or near the place where an offence has been committed. The Court would consist of a Commissioner and the native chiefs of the district.

Among the more important Proclamations enacted during the year under review, Proclamation No. 5, prohibiting slave dealing under severe penalties, came into operation on the 1st of April. By Order No. 9 of the 26th November, 1901, this was made applicable throughout the Protectorate.

The advantages accruing from the "House" system, the guarantees afforded by it for the thrifty management of property and the resulting absence of pauperisation among the lower social grades of the natives of this Protectorate are recognised in the attempt made in Proclamation No. 26 to consolidate "House" Regulations and to strengthen the quasi-parental authority of the Representatives of "Houses."

The duties of the members and the obligations of the Heads of "Houses," as prescribed by native custom are regulated, and penalties are provided for offences by employers in respect of members of "Houses."

The Forestry Proclamation made provision for the preservation of timber, rubber, and forest produce in the Protectorate. By Order No. 10 of 1901 Forest reserves were declared. The sale of rubber was prohibited from the 15th February to the 31st May in each year and its exportation from the 1st March to 31st May.

EDUCATION.

In 1900 was established a scheme by which primary education together with industrial was offered to the native population. The support it received gave it a good foundation, and though it is too soon yet to speak positively of its future, the results at present justify the hopes anticipated of its usefulness. The Institution started at Bonny not only shows a satisfactory financial basis, but suggests possibilities of successful extension in the future.

There is no secondary education in the Protectorate as yet, though one or two missions include industrial education in their curriculum; but there is plenty of room for a larger development in this direction.

A school was established at Benin City which should be capable of doing very useful work. The natives of the Benin territories shew an appreciative tendency towards taking advantage of it and are in this respect likely to take the lead of most other native tribes in the Protectorate.

A very great advance was made by the appointment of a European inspector of schools, who is taking steps to extend the educational system to other districts, and to consolidate and re-organise existing establishments. Steps were taken during the year with a view to providing higher education.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals and Sanitation.

There are two hospitals (both at Old Calabar) European and native.

118 cases were treated at the European hospital, Old Calabar, of which two cases ended in death.

1,075 cases were treated outside headquarters, 15 cases resulting in death.

The prevalent diseases were malarial and unclassified climatic fevers. It is somewhat remarkable that out of 28 cases of blackwater fever throughout the Protectorate, three only resulted in death—shewing an unusual number of slight cases.

6,849 natives were vaccinated during the year.

In the native hospital at Old Calabar 617 cases were treated (an increase of 66), 35 resulting in death, 11 of which were due to diseases of the respiratory system.

The total number of cases treated in the Protectorate was 16,067, of which 53 resulted in death.

A special report was made on a case of Bilharzia Haematobia by Doctor R. A. Bennett.

The sewage works begun in the previous year have been completed. The system known as Moule's was adopted; the necessary track was laid and sewage and all refuse matter is disposed of by being run out in trucks to the ground allotted for its reception.

A system of water supply for Old Calabar was completed this year with excellent results. The water has after chemical analysis been pronounced practically pure.

The supply is obtained from a spring situated at a distance of about three-quarters of a mile; this water is pumped into a reservoir tank and is conducted as required to each building. Stand-pipes are available in convenient positions, and the necessity of being dependent on the supply of rain water stored from galvanized iron roofs is done away with.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

A Force of Police known as Court messengers, amounting to 180 rank and file perform the police work of the Protectorate. They form the staff of the prison department and carry out all Court process. It is proposed to organize the force as civil police almost immediately.

Prisons.

There are two first class prisons (at Old Calabar and Asaba), and three second class, viz., at Benin City, Sapele, and Degama. Out of a total of 1,291 persons committed (including those committed by native Courts), 1,250 of whom were men, 493 were sent to Old Calabar and 288 to Asaba. Of the 288 at Asaba 189 had one previous conviction against them, and 115 were committed for three months or less.

There were six escapes only for the year under review as compared with 15 and 9, respectively, in the two years immediately preceding.

The total annual cost of the prisons was roughly £10,000, of which 30 per cent. was returned in labour performed by the prisoners, calculated at 9*d*. per day hard, and 6*d*. per day light labour per man. This does not include the value of work done at lock-up stations.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

Trials on information in the Supreme Court resulted in 41 convictions and 19 acquittals—there being seven cases outstanding for trial at the close of the year.

The total number of offences reported was 870, of these 620 were summarily convicted, 166 were acquitted, 17 were discharged in the absence of evidence—leaving 67 to be dealt with in the Supreme Court.

Table of Summary Convictions, and how Punished.

Punishments.	Total number.	Assaults.	Malicious injury to Property.	Præcial Larceny.	Offences against property other than Præcial Larceny.	Offences against Revenue Act.	Master and servant.	Other offences.
Fines	120	41	—	—	1	22	1	55
Imprisonment in lieu of payment of fine.	12	5	—	—	—	2	—	5
Peremptory imprisonment.	460	103	2	1	252	20	3	79
Whipping	7	6	—	—	1	—	—	—
Bound over or other trivial punishment.	21	7	—	—	3	—	—	11
Total	620	162	2	1	257	44	4	150
Total, previous year 1900 (nine months only.)	356	86	—	—	119	19	—	132

The figures for the previous year are for nine months only, and are, therefore, not comparable. Also the extension in 1900 of the previous limits of the Protectorate and the consequent spread of the judicial system has to be taken into account with the apparent increase as shewn by the figures.

VITAL STATISTICS.

There are 397 Europeans in the Protectorate, of whom 44 are females. During the year there occurred 17 deaths in the Territories; giving a death rate of 42·82 per thousand as compared with 63·29 per thousand for the previous year out of 316. There has therefore been a great diminution in mortality. The greatest number invalided from one place was 15 from Old Calabar (population 139) but extra cases come to headquarters occasionally for treatment.

Bonny and Agberi, with a European population of 12 each, and Opobo, with one of 19, had no deaths—while Asaba (including Onitsha), with a population of 76 had 5 deaths in the year.

The following table compares officials and non-officials.

Class.	1901.				
	Number.	Died.	Invalided.	Death rate per 1,000.	Invalided rate per 1,000.
Officials	121	4	15	33	123·9
Non-officials ...	276	13*	32	47·1*	115·9
Total or mean rate.	397	17	47	42·82	118·42

* Not including one suicide.

Class.	1900.				
	Number.	Died.	Invalided.	Death rate per 1,000.	Invalided rate per 1,000.
Officials	101	7	12	69·34	118·71
Non-officials ...	215	13	26	60·46	120·93
Total or mean rate.	316	20	38	63·29	120·5

CLIMATE.

The rainfall was exceptionally heavy. At one station (Bonny) 48·43 inches were recorded for July. Records were kept at three stations, the average for the year being 182·78 inches.

At Old Calabar the maximum shade temperature was 94° F., recorded in February, March, May, and October; the minimum, 65° in January. The highest mean temperature was 83° in February, and the lowest 77·5° in January. The highest mean relative humidity was 86·5 in October, and the lowest 75·8 in April.

The general direction of the wind was south-west.

POSTAL.

The total amount of Revenue derived from the sale of stamps, postcards, &c., for the year was £3,293—and commissions on money orders £268. There was also collected on taxed correspondence the sum of £15, the total gross revenue being £3,577 as compared with £1,931 for the previous year.

The estimated total number of letters, postcards, &c., dealt with for the year is 494,325.

—	Internal, received and despatched.	United Kingdom.	
		From.	To.
Letters and post cards, book packets, &c.	223,141	168,163	103,021
Parcels	5,619	2,954	791

MONEY ORDERS.

—	Total, 1901.	Total, 1900.
	£	£
Issued	21,088	11,117
Received	2,124	1,527

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

The Southern Nigeria Regiment of the West African Frontier Force was in June, 1900, raised from an establishment of 1,050 rank and file to 1,250. The establishment of Officers consists of

1 Commandant.
1 Second in Command.
9 Captains.
27 Subalterns.
6 European Non-Commissioned Officers.
2 Native Officers.

The Regiment previously consisted of nine Companies, one being an Artillery Company, and was re-organized into an Infantry Battalion of eight Companies and two Batteries of Artillery.

The Infantry Battalion is armed with the Lee-Enfield ·303 Carbine and a ·303 Maxim gun is attached to each Company.

The Artillery consists of one Battery armed with 75 Millimetre Vickers-Maxim guns, and one armed with 7-pounder R.M.L. guns.

The expenditure during 1900-1901 amounted to £39,710, an increase of over £9,000 on the expenditure of the previous year. £30,094 was spent on pay and allowances and £9,616 under other charges, the principal items being £4,999 for clothing, accoutrements and necessaries, and £3,255 for cost of ammunition, purchase and repair of arms, &c.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Public Works.

Among works completed during the year are:—

—	Estimate.	Actual cost.
	£	£
Judicial house	1,800	1,794
Native rest houses	50	48
Benin city officers' quarters	1,500	2,294
Alterations to European houses ...	150	177

The Breakwater at Old Calabar (Quay Wall works) continues to progress rapidly at a total cost up to the end of the year of nearly £22,224. The expenditure during the year under review was £13,974.

Current repairs to public buildings cost £3,476.

STAFF.

Under the Public Officers Guarantee Fund Proclamation of 1900, 513 officers gave bond for the proper discharge of their duties.

FUTURE PROSPECTS OF TRADE.

Trade prospects should prove to be more than ordinarily bright in view of the fact that the operations begun this year in the Aro Country—a large portion of the Territories—should have a very beneficial effect on trade. This will not, in all probability, immediately appear, but the gradual and successful pacification of a large oil-producing area, hitherto given up principally to "JuJu" fetish, is bound to be followed by the throwing open of markets hitherto closed to Europeans except through middlemen. A tract of country emancipated for the first time from all kind of native oppression will naturally require time to develop.

The natives possess the trading instinct, and once their every day life admits of attention to the advantages of trading, their energies, hitherto expended in other ways, will be diverted in the right direction, and increased trade should result.

OPENINGS FOR INVESTMENT OF CAPITAL.

Opportunities for the investment of new capital exist chiefly in the adoption by merchants of more energetic methods of trading, and in the development of the timber trade.

If the European trader will meet his market (so to speak) half way, the middlema would the sooner disappear; markets now tapped indirectly only, would be gradually absorbed into the channel of European trade, and prices would find a level beneficial to both parties.

The out-of-pocket expenses of such a policy should eventually be recouped by the disappearanee of the middleman's profit on the purchase of produce.

The timber trade is still in its infancy in the Territories, and is capable of great development. It has already given, and will still further give, a return for any outlay incurred. It is worthy of the attention of merchants in itself, apart from any general commercial business which may be undertaken in the Protectorate.

TABLE

Heads of Expenditure.	Personal Emoluments.													
	1899-1900.			1900-1901			Increase.			Decrease.				
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
Pensions	—			—			—							
High Commissioner	3,296	12	5	3,762	5	2	465	12	9					
Secretary's Department.	655	4	3	1,170	3	11	514	19	8					
Political, &c. ...	18,937	1	0	23,430	11	7	4,493	10	7					
Judicial	929	12	0	2,869	14	6	1,940	2	6					
Survey	—			4	16	9	4	16	9					
Treasury Department.	2,267	11	8	2,866	2	8	598	11	0					
Customs	6,579	18	7	6,640	5	3	60	6	8					
Post Office	2,014	12	2	2,046	9	11	31	17	9					
Printing Department.	1,032	16	1	1,168	18	9	136	2	8					
Audit	555	13	7	566	10	0	10	16	5					
Force...	23,632	1	9	30,094	0	1	6,461	18	4					
Marine	11,206	6	4	17,296	1	0	6,089	14	8					
Prisons	4,466	17	5½	5,735	1	6	1,268	4	0½					
Forestry and Botanical.	1,085	19	5	2,420	13	8	1,334	14	3					
Medical	8,076	16	9	10,433	15	6	2,356	18	9					
Sanitary	1,013	16	7	1,163	6	10	149	10	3					
Transport	—			—			—							
Aborigines	—			—			—							
Miscellaneous ...	—			—			—							
Public Works Department.	3,766	8	11	4,879	8	5	1,112	19	6					
Public Works Recurrent.	—			—			—							
Public Works Extraordinary.	—			—			—							
Total	89,517	8	11½	116,548	5	6	27,030	16	6½					

I.—A.

Other Charges.												Remarks.
1899 1900.			1900-1901.			Increase.			Decrease.			
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
280	0	0	810	0	0	530	0	0	—			
749	16	8	912	15	2	162	18	6	—			
—			—			—			—			
1,389	19	3	—			—			1,389	19	3	
37	17	11	80	6	1	42	8	2	—			
—			—			—			—			
85	4	4	111	13	2	26	8	10	—			
671	7	8	721	18	3	50	10	7	—			
1,100	12	7½	1,629	1	9	528	9	1½	—			
295	16	9	443	3	7	147	6	10	—			
214	2	6	53	0	0	—			161	2	6	
6,564	0	5	9,616	17	8	3,052	17	3	—			
21,324	19	0	50,181	15	11	28,856	16	11	—			
2,733	12	1	3,159	1	7	425	9	6	—			
85	9	0	144	18	2	59	9	2	—			
1,195	17	11½	1,533	7	10	337	9	10½	—			
133	19	8	260	18	9	126	19	1	—			
5,729	13	11	10,550	17	8	4,821	3	9	—			
8,236	13	0	11,345	6	11	3,108	13	11	—			
11,006	13	4½	55,562	7	3	44,555	13	10½	—			
130	7	3	2	8	10	—			127	18	5	
5,387	12	11	7,822	6	7	2,434	13	8	—			
19,269	3	4	34,702	7	5	15,433	4	1	—			
86,622	19	7½	189,644	12	7	101,700	13	1½	1,679	0	2	

	£	s.	d.
Net increase—Personal Emoluments ...	27,030	16	6½
Do. Other Charges	103,021	12	11½
	130,052	9	6

TABLE A.

REVENUE.

—	Receipts during year ending March 31st, 1901.	Total for year ending March 31st, 1901.	Total for year ending March 31st, 1900.	Total for year ending March 31st, 1899.	Increase of Revenue in year ending March 31st, 1901.	Decrease, &c.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£	£	£	
Customs—						
Specific	334,433 8 5					
Ad Valorem	28,038 12 0					
		362,472 0 5	156,491	160,669	205,981	—
Licences—						
Gun Licences	78 7 6					
Fines on Mechanics...	122 16 11					
Fines on Force	—					
Fines on Police	70 12 1					
Fines, other Departments	201 15 11					
Court Fines	672 10 10					
Other Licences	417 10 0					
Royalties	491 12 5					
		2,055 5 8	775	656	1,280	—
Fees—						
Customs Fees	1,306 4 7					
Court Fees	553 16 0					
Sale of Ordinances	108 18 3					
Sale of Government Property	2,678 11 6					
Hospital Receipts	245 19 8					

Sale of Plants	12 5 8						
Percentage for Rent on Government Furnitures	150 15 6						
Prison Labour	15 13 0						
Customs Warehouse Fees	108 17 1						
Receipts by Native Courts...	1,080 15 2						
Receipts for use of Government Wharves ...	244 16 0						
Marriage Fees	6 10 0						
		6,513 2 5	3,358	3,719	3,155	—	
Postal—							
Sale of Stamps, &c.	2,169 18 6						
Taxed and Unpaid Letters	12 1 9						
Money Order Commissions	175 11 4						
Forfeited Money Orders	8 1 9						
		2,365 13 4	1,397	1,688	969	—	
Miscellaneous—							
Sale of Presents	47 12 6						
Sundry and Petty Receipts	5,360 1 5						
Sale of Condemned Stores...	27 18 7						
Sale of Seized Property	140 9 10						
Refund, Yacht Messing	387 6 6						
Rent on Government Lands	45 10 0						
Interest	1,479 9 1						
		7,488 7 11	2,085	2,833	5,403	—	
Totals		380,894 9 9	164,106	169,565	216,788	—	

TABLE B.

EXPENDITURE.

—	Totals. March 31, 1901.	Totals. March 31 1900.	Totals. March 31, 1899.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£	£	£	£
Pensions	810 0 0	280	1,630	530	—
High Commissioner...	4,675 0 4	4.046	3,984	628	—
Secretary's Department	1,170 3 11	655	—	514	—
Political and Administrative Staff ...	23,430 11 7	20,327	18,246	3,103	—
Judicial Department	2,950 0 7	967	834	1,982	—
Survey Department	4 16 9	—	—	4	—
Treasury	2,977 15 10	2,352	2,400	624	—
Customs ,, ...	7,362 3 6	7,251	6,474	110	—
Post Office ,, ...	3,675 11 8	3,115	3,053	560	—
Printing ,, ...	1,612 2 4	1,328	1,231	283	—
Audit ,, ...	619 10 4	769	786	—	150
3rd Batt., W.A.F. Force	39,710 17 9	30,196	21,372	9,514	—
Marine Department...	67,477 16 11	32,531	22,097	34,946	—
Prisons ,, ...	8,894 3 1	7,200	6,038	1,693	—
Botanical and Forestry Department ...	2,565 11 10	1,171	1,255	1,394	—
Medical	11,967 3 4	9,272	10,129	2,694	—
Sanitary	1,424 5 7	1,147	1,140	276	—
Transport	10,550 17 8	5,729	6,161	4,821	—
Aborigines	11,345 6 11	8,236	7,115	3,108	—

Miscellaneous	55,562 7 3	11,006	9,346	44,555	—
Public Works Department	4,881 17 3	3,896	3,437	985	—
,, ,, Recurrent	7,822 6 7	5,387	5,565	2,434	—
,, ,, Extraordinary	34,702 7 5	19,267	14,407	15,433	—
Total	306,192 18 5	176,136	146,700	130,191	150

TABLE C.

Total Revenue and Expenditure for the last Five Years.

—	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Revenue...	112,440 11 10½	153,181 8 0½	169,567 18 11	164,108 1 8½	380,894 9 9
Expenditure	128,411 8 0½	121,900 19 2	146,751 17 1½	176,140 8 7	306,192 18 1

TABLE D.

Customs Receipts for 1901.

Receipts.	Amount.
	£
Gross customs duties	347,174
Gross customs duties previous year (1900.)	325,193
Increase	21,981
Made up of—	
Ad valorem duties	21,230
Specific duties	751
Total	21,981

TABLE E.

Summary of Exports and Imports.

—	1900.	1901.
	£	£
Total exports	1,133,604	1,253,706
Total imports	1,115,583	1,297,116
Surplus of exports	18,021	—
Surplus of imports	—	43,410
United Kingdom—		
Imports from...	927,905	1,072,962
Exports to	672,900	798,693
Surplus of imports	255,005	274,269
Surplus of exports	—	—
British Colonies—		
Imports from...	6,256	4,708
Exports to	215	7,487
Surplus of imports	6,041	—
Surplus of exports	—	2,779
Foreign Countries—		
Imports from	181,421	447,525
Exports to	460,488	219,445
Surplus of imports	—	—
Surplus of exports	279,067	228,080
Totals	5,056,506	5,650,180

TABLE F.

Trade with Foreign Countries.

—	1900.	1901.	Increase.	Decrease.
Imports from—	£	£	£	£
Germany	87,489	104,008	16,519	—
Holland	83,378	97,565	14,187	—
United States of America	6,053	4,663	—	1,390
Spain	3,212	3,027	—	185
France	—	2,531	2,531	—
Exports to –				
Germany	385,806	392,795	6,989	—
Holland	8	10,817	10,809	—
United States of America	—	—	—	—
Spain	—	—	—	—
France	74,156	43,505	—	30,651
Totals	640,102	658,911	51,035	32,226

TABLE G.

Principal Imports and Countries whence Imported.

Articles.	Total Value.		United Kingdom.		Germany.		Holland.		Other Countries
	1900	1901.	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Aërated waters	—	5,403	—	3,945	—	1,318	—	119	19
Ale, beer, porter, cider, &c. ...	4,176	4,002	2,076	2,273	2,079	1,689	17	—	36
Beef and pork	8,752	8,807	8,963	8,651	2,380	155	—	—	11
Bread and biscuits	5,739	5,165	5,736	5,759	—	—	—	—	4
Chemicals and Drugs	—	7,409	—	7,338	—	28	—	—	41
Provisions	32,210	44,729	28,530	39,376	2,438	2,802	44	85	2,099
Rice	18,856	23,185	17,122	21,543	1,689	1,525	—	24	90
Salt	34,115	26,412	34,115	26,282	—	36	—	2	90
Brandy	720	1,021	631	934	79	74	1	—	11
Gin and Geneva	99,118	117,604	1,523	1,834	30,342	39.632	67,250	76,131	5
Liqueurs	915	556	116	183	798	346	—	19	7
Rum	13,438	9,216	2,502	2,028	10,083	5,098	18	445	1,643
Whiskey	5,135	5,288	5,064	5,268	46	15	—	—	3
Sugar	—	4,484	—	4,451	—	49	—	—	9
Wines	6,001	6,627	5,432	4,760	264	703	1	38	158
Bags and sacks	11,810	11,440	10,908	10,308	894	1,127	—	—	—
Cotton goods	274,249	265,059	271,477	256.157	2,037	4,976	475	1,960	3,922
Silk goods	20,924	15,452	17,219	12,681	3,600	2,693	—	—	75
Umbrellas	6,157	6,830	5,747	6,502	394	285	—	—	40
Wearing apparel	28,950	38,225	27,616	36,891	1,115	945	88	79	305

Woollen goods	—	12,142	—	11,558	—	333	—	245	5
Guns—Dane	8,853	3,370	4,187	2,599	641	191	4,010	579	—
Hardware and cutlery	52,157	69,961	36,848	55,333	10,305	9,215	4,943	4,988	430
Beads	11,582	8,454	8,963	6,232	2,380	1,793	11	16	149
Boats and canoes	5,715	5,161	5,336	4,668	143	192	—	—	298
Building materials	45,653	47,339	42,337	43,816	2,809	1,391	419	360	1,768
Cooper's stores	65,696	70,032	61,581	62,203	414	814	3,700	6,949	55
Earthenware	9,932	9,207	8,858	8,856	1,066	333	—	10	5
Furniture	7,210	13,250	5,678	10,575	1,375	2,297	3	4	369
Gunpowder	7,358	3,032	7,029	2,758	329	271	—	—	1
Haberdashery	4,472	2,579	4,389	2,309	31	52	—	—	215
Kerosene and lamp oil	7,919	5,744	167	913	40	133	—	—	4,695
Perfumery	2,619	1,657	529	600	2,062	986	25	—	69
Pipes	2,020	1,774	1,872	1,714	34	16	110	42	—
Soap	9,443	9,417	9,251	9,215	181	188	—	—	13
Tobacco, unmanufactured ...	67,638	62,483	67,588	62,062	49	—	—	—	420
Specie	135,309	209,822	130,850	205,222	—	1,900	—	—	2,700
Totals	1,014,841	1,142,338	840,240	947,197	80,097	83,601	81,115	92,095	19,760

TABLE H.

Principal Exports and Countries to which Exported.

Articles.	Value.		United Kingdom.		Germany.		France.	
	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cocoa	2,709	2,138	2,489	2,740	220	398	—	—
Coffee	725	300	709	272	16	27	—	—
Ebony	1,665	6,009	1,558	4,879	106	1,130	—	—
Fibre	2,922	3,184	2,922	3,184	—	—	—	—
Gum copal	1,513	115	1,512	115	1	—	—	—
Ivory	13,794	10,995	12,872	10,635	922	359	—	—
Native timber lumber	7,013	11,228	6,792	10,946	221	282	—	—
Miscellaneous products...	37,091	30,629	33,716	19,395	66	8,781	3,276	2,421
Palm kernels	430,016	437,092	83,019	68,552	346,997	360,605	—	—
Palm kernel shells	637	1,005	637	1,005	—	—	—	—
Palm oil	491,131	606 011	392,156	542,111	28,094	19,928	70,880	41,084
Rubber	137,289	106,924	128,440	105,818	8,848	1,094	—	—
Specie	135,309	32,961	130,850	25,601	—	—	—	—
Totals	1,261,814	1,249,591	797,672	795,253	385,491	392,604	74,156	43,505

TABLE I.

Duty on Imports consigned to Northern Nigeria.

For Year ending December 31st, 1900.	For Year ending December 31st, 1901.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.
9,359 12 3	11,266 12 6

TABLE J.

Exports of Produce from Northern Nigeria.

Articles.	Value— December 31st, 1900.	Value— December 31st, 1901.
	£	£
Benni seed	261	339
Beeswax	17	67
Capsicums	274	163
Gambia pods	29	32
Ground nuts	3,750	1,166
Gum arabic	1,563	3,448
Ivory	11,815	9,051
Mandioca flour	243	93
Rubber	11,905	21,331
Shea butter	14,412	6,162
Shea nuts	10,913	26,489
Palm kernels	3,046	3,242
Wood oil	522	1,579
Deer skins	28	96
Igara kernels	—	7
Indigo	—	17
Totals	58,778	73,282

TABLE

RETURN shewing TOTAL VALUES of the PRINCIPAL IMPORTS COLLECTED for five years

Article.	1896-97.				1897-98.			
	Value.		Duty.		Value.		Duty.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Spirits	59,844	0 4	80,916	16 2	82,923	15 3	116,547	13 0
Tobacco	56,484	18 11	22,863	4 0	57,324	14 4	22,324	7 4
Salt	7,625	2 1	1,360	4 0	10,992	8 1	1,998	0 0
Ad valorem	—		—		—		—	
Other Articles, Specific and Free.	532,023	17 0	3,961	4 1	488,457	14 11	4,671	16 4
Total	655,977	18 4	109,101	8 3	639,698	12 7	145,541	16 8

TABLE

RETURN shewing the VALUES of the PRINCIPAL EXPORTS from March 31st,

Article.	1896-97.		1897-98.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Palm Oil	9,350,559	465,583 2 3	8,476,955	410,133 11 5
Palm Kernels...	38,043	290,124 15 5	39,529	295,544 17 5
Other Articles	—	29,897 7 7	—	44,545 0 1
Total	—	785,605 5 3	—	750,223 8 11

K.

into the SOUTHERN NIGERIA PROTECTORATE and DUTIES ended March 31st, 1901.

1898-99.						1899-1900.						1900-01.					
Value.			Duty.			Value.			Duty.			Value.			Duty.		
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
102 018	14	7	132,590	12	0	65,784	8	7	111,791	11	4	148,849	19	7	254,382	13	6
60,899	1	7	20,316	12	10	66,870	15	6	27,864	11	9	66,857	16	5	43,752	17	1
9,098	16	0	1,687	12	0	18,448	15	8	5,279	6	2	23,740	14	9	15,947	0	0
—			—			121,573	7	4	5,654	7	0½	600,444	19	8	27,420	11	6
560,623	6	3	5,157	18	9	453,120	14	8	5,988	6	9	359,796	16	9	21,792	16	7
732,639	18	5	160,752	15	7	725,798	1	9	156,578	3	0½	1,199,690	7	2	363,295	18	8

L.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA PROTECTORATE from April 1st, 1896, to 1901.

1898-99.				1899-1900.				1900-01.			
Quantity.	Value.			Quantity.	Value.			Quantity.	Value.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
8,113,820	397,869	10	10	8,650,226	420,680	8	10	10,639,599	527,887	3	5
40,528	305,791	8	0	43,569	340,218	4	0	52,388	420,509	11	9
—	70,987	0	11	—	128,056	6	4	—	217,750	7	8
—	774,647	19	9	—	888,954	19	2	—	1,166,147	2	10

TABLE M.

Steam Vessels Cleared.

Total of steam vessels clearing from Protectorate.		Total tonnage of steam vessels.		Total crew of steam vessels.	
1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.
638	639	924,124	964,190	25,965	27,209

Steam Vessels Entered.

Total of steam vessels entering Protectorate.		Total tonnage of steam vessels.		Total crew of steam vessels.	
1900	1901.	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.
645	644	940,389	977,733	25,490	27,227

13494

TABLE N.

Shewing NUMBER and TONNAGE of VESSELS which ENTERED and CLEARED at PORTS in the PROTECTORATE of SOUTHERN NIGERIA for FIVE YEARS.

Flag.	1897–1898.				1898–1899.				1899–1900.				1900–1901.				1901–1902.			
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
British	114	167,372	116	169,217	132	176,277	133	176,570	140	199,640	140	199,848	249	256,916	241	254,489	220	251,370	210	245,389
Foreign	13	18,097	13	18,097	13	15,990	12	15,697	13	15,918	13	15,918	17	19,942	16	19,334	35	41,924	36	45,935
Total	127	185,469	129	187,314	145	192,267	145	192,267	153	215,558	153	215,766	266	276,858	257	273,823	255	293,294	246	291,324

LONDON:
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1903.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 405.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

REPORT FOR 1902.

(For Report for 1901, *see* No. 381.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November 1903.

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382	Trinidad and Tobago	1901–1902
383	Bermuda	1902
384	St. Lucia	1901
385	St Vincent	„
386	Falkland Islands	1902
387	Gibraltar	„
388	Weihaiwei	„
389	Sierra Leone	„
390	British Honduras	„
391	Gambia	„
392	St. Helena	„
393	Hong Kong	„
394	Turks and Caicos Islands	„
395	Seychelles	„
396	Ceylon	„
397	Gold Coast	„
398	Barbados	1902–1903
399	Fiji	1902
400	Lagos	„
401	British Solomon Islands	1902–1903
402	Cocos-Keeling Islands	1903
403	St. Vincent	1902–1903
404	Grenada	1902

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture
2	Zululand...	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas...	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific...	British Solomon Islands
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas...	Fibre Industry.
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20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.

No. 405.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

(For Report for 1901, *see* No. 381.)

ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER PROBYN to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,
Old Calabar,
29th July, 1903.

SIR,

IN accordance with No. 271 of the Colonial Office Regulations, I have the honour to transmit the Blue Book (two copies) for 1902, together with the Report required by the regulation referred to.

I am, &c.,

L. PROBYN,
Acting High Commissioner.

---

875 Wt 21109 11/1903 D & S—5 15893

REPORT, 1902.

During the year 1902 the Protectorate was freed for ever from the evils of slave-raiding and slave-dealing on an organised scale. On April 1st, 1901, "The Slave Dealing Proclamation" was published, and on the 26th November, 1901, the provisions of that law, making slave-dealing in all its forms a penal offence, were applied by Order to all parts of the Protectorate, but it was not until the termination, in April, 1902, of the successful military operations in the Aro country, that the system of tribal warfare, for the purpose of making slaves, could be accurately regarded as an evil of the past.

The southern part of the Protectorate is a delta country through the low lands of which the Ossay, Niger, Engenni, Opobo, and Cross rivers force their way through winding sluggish creeks to the sea. At a distance varying from 40 to 70 miles from the coast, higher land is met, the zone on which the oil palm flourishes is passed, and the country, undulating for the most part, but in many places very hilly, stretches northward to the boundary with the Protectorate of Northern Nigeria, which runs east and west at a distance of 180 miles from the sea. Slave-raiding had been repressed for many years previous to 1902 in the delta country and in all the hinterland above described, except that part of the latter which lies between the Niger and the Cross River (a distance of 100 miles), and it was throughout this region that the Aro influence was predominant.

The most noteworthy fact brought to light by the military operations in the last stronghold of slavery above described, was that the Aros were not a military race, and that their influence was due to their relatively great intelligence, as compared with other native tribes. The strength of this influence was such, that not only was it paramount in the Aro country, but was also felt in many places in the delta region between the Niger and the Cross River, and also to the east of the latter. Whenever a tribe attempted to avoid acting in accordance with the Aro policy, it was fought by warlike tribes under the direction of the Aros, who recompensed such mercenaries by allowing them to loot the conquered tribe and to seize and sell as slaves those who survived the conflict. Within the area of the direct Aro influence, no important dispute could be settled save by reference to the oracle in the Juju or sacred grove situated in a ravine near Ibum (Aro Chuku). Each of the contending parties attempted to propitiate this oracle by large offerings, and the party against whom judgment was pronounced, was believed by his tribes to have been destroyed by the hidden power, while, in reality, he was almost invariably sold secretly into slavery. As the tribe supposed to be specially

favoured by this oracle, the Aros were able to gain wealth in the shape both of propitiatory offerings and of slaves. In addition to being a constant source of wealth, the Juju oracle also afforded the Aros a means whereby any one opposing or supposed to be desirous of opposing their authority could be easily removed, as they could at any time contrive that a charge should be made against the rebel, thus forcing him to appeal to the oracle and then, on his arrival at Ibum, he would either be made powerless through parting with all his wealth as an offering, or, if his gifts were insufficient, his doom would be pronounced by Aro priests hidden in a concealed cave in the sacred ravine, and thereafter the Aro opponent became the Aro slave.*

The military operations which were brought to a successful close in 1902, destroyed the system of slave-making above described, and the dreaded Juju oracle ceased for ever to exercise its baneful influence. The Aros themselves, however, were not destroyed, but, on the contrary, immediately gave further proof of their intelligence by adapting themselves to the new conditions of life. It had been their practice to prevent tribes within their influence from attempting to do a direct trade with the delta country, and thus they alone had experience in trade. They at once began to utilise this experience, they readily learnt to appreciate the superior value of English currency, as compared with the native mediums of barter, manillas, brass rods, &c., and, by their activity, showed that for many years they would be probably the principal gainers in any increased trade which might result from their country having been thrown open to the delta traders.

The foregoing facts are referred to thus early in this Report, as it is obvious that they affect the financial and other returns in the Blue Book for 1902. In accordance with the system introduced in 1900, the financial returns (which include the return of monies expended on Public Works) only cover the financial year ending 31st March, 1902, whereas, the departmental returns relate to the calendar year.

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* The Aros do not appear to have resorted to trial by ordeal. This mode of testing the truth of witnesses is resorted to largely by the natives in many parts of the Protectorate and is of course of ancient origin. The abuse of this practice was checked by a Proclamation drafted in 1902, viz: the "Ordeal, Witchcraft and Juju Proclamation, 1903" No. 13 of 1903.

FINANCIAL.

The Revenue for the year 1901-1902 amounted to £361,815, and the Expenditure, to £331,396, showing a surplus of Revenue over Expenditure of £30,419.

Revenue.

The following is a comparative statement of the Revenue during the three years 1899-1900, 1900-1901, and 1901-1902:—

—	1899–1900.	1900–1901.	1901–1902.
	£	£	£
Customs	156,491	362,472	335,929*
Licences	775	2,050	5,407
Fees (payments for specific services).	3,358	6,513	9,326
Postal Revenue	1,397	2,365	4,341
Miscellaneous	2,085	7,492	6,810
Totals	164,108	380,894	361,815

* Specific duties, £283,782. *Ad valorem* £52,147. These duties were increased from 5 per cent. to 10 per cent. on April 1st, 1901. During 1900–1901 the figures were £334,433 and £28,033 respectively.

It will be noted that the Revenue during 1901-1902 continued to be much greater than in 1899-1900, but showed a net decrease (£19,079 7*s.* 2*d.*) under the Revenue in 1900-1901.

Early in the quarter ending September, 1901, preparations were commenced in anticipation of it being necessary to undertake an expedition against the Aros, and this fact becoming known, induced importers to restrict their orders, as they feared that all trade with the region under the Aro influence would be stopped. The result was that during that quarter the Customs revenue was £27,000 less than during the same quarter of the previous year. The rapid success attained by the Protectorate Forces in the expedition, prevented continued reduction on the same scale, and the total loss from this cause was partially counter-balanced by the ad valorem duties being 10 per cent. instead of 5 per cent. as in the previous year. Thus while the amount collected from specific duties was £50,651 less, the amount from ad valorem duties was £24,114 more in 1901-1902 than in 1900-1901.

The net decline of Revenue in 1901-1902 was, as above stated, only £19,070, there having been considerable increases in "Licences," "Fees," and "Postal Revenue." Proclamation No. 2 of 1901, prohibited the sale of spirits in towns save by licensed persons, and the new source of revenue thus created produced £2,105 during 1901-1902. The sum mentioned, added to an increase in the fees paid in connection with the timber industry, accounts for the larger amount received under "Licences."

Of the increases shown in the comparative statement in "Fees" or "Payments for specific purposes," £1,442 was due to the larger amount or work done for the public in the marine ship-repairing yards, and with respect to the increase in "Postal Revenue," stamp collectors bought stamps to the value of £1,821, as compared with £836 for like purchases in 1900-1901.

EXPENDITURE.

The following is a comparative statement of the Expenditure during the three years 1899-1900, 1900-1901, and 1901-1902:—

—	1899–1900.	1900–1901.	1901–1902.	Increase. 1901–1902.	Decrease. 1901–1902.
	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Pensions and Gratuities	280	810 0 0	930 12 6	120 12 6	—
High Commissioner	4,046	4,675 0 4	4,744 3 0	69 2 8	—
Secretary's Department	655	1,170 3 11	2,276 5 2	1,106 1 3	—
Political and Administrative	20,327	23,430 11 7	25,005 0 0	1,574 8 5	—
Judicial and Legal	967	2,950 0 7	3,781 9 5	831 8 10	—
Survey Department	—	4 16 9	1,718 5 1	1,713 8 4	—
Treasury Department	2,352	2,977 15 10	3,275 8 5	297 12 7	—
Customs ,, ...	7,251	7,362 3 6	8,299 1 4	936 17 10	—
Post Office...	3,115	3,675 11 8	3,668 18 2	—	6 13 6
Printing Department	1,328	1,612 2 4	1,964 4 5	352 2 1	—
Audit ,, ...	769	619 10 0	740 13 10	121 3 10	—
Force, W.A.F.	30,196	39,710 17 9	53,043 16 6	13,332 18 9	—
Marine Department	32,531	67,477 16 11	46,234 1 10	—	21,243 15 1
Prison ,, ...	7,200	8,894 3 1	10,575 10 3	1,681 7 2	—
Forestry and Botanical Department	1,171	2,565 11 10	2,757 7 9	191 15 11	—
Medical Department	9,272	11,967 3 4	13,278 4 7	1,311 1 3	—
Sanitary ,, ...	1,147	1,424 5 7	1,174 16 7	—	249 9 0
Transport	5,729	10,550 17 8	15,607 7 0	5,056 9 4	—
Aborigines...	8,236	11,345 6 11	9,203 18 3	—	2,141 8 8
Educational	—	—	1,070 6 5	1,070 6 5	—
Miscellaneous	11,006	55,562 7 3	37,205 8 9	—	18,356 18 6
Contribution to Northern Nigeria	—	—	33,785 10 0	33,785 10 0	—
Public Works Department	3,896	4,881 17 3	5,743 12 1	861 14 10	—
,, ,, Recurrent	5,387	7,822 6 7	5,963 16 3	—	1,858 10 4
,, ,, Extraordinary	19,269	34,702 7 5	39,348 18 9	4,646 11 4	—
Total	176,140	306,192 18 1	331,396 16 4	69,060 13 4	43,856 15 1

The large net decrease in the Expenditure of the Marine Department during 1901-1902, is explained by the following comparison with the Expenditure during the previous year:—

—	Increases.	Decreases.
	£	£
Personal Emoluments	3,486	—
Purchase and Upkeep of lighters, &c...	—	1,372
Launch Engineering Stores	1,034	—
Coal (fall in value)	—	3,889
Sinking Fund for "Ivy"	1,000	—
Purchase of Steam Launches	—	8,304
Stern Wheeler	1,099	—
Repairs to Yacht "Ivy"	—	14,273
Total	6,619	27,838
Deduct Increases ...		6,619
		21,219

The net decrease in "Miscellaneous," is accounted for by the "Contribution to Northern Nigeria" being shown, for the first time, under a separate head. But for this transfer there would have been a large increase, as much more money was spent on the subhead "Expenses of Expeditionary Works" (chiefly in connection with the Aro Expedition), and on "Rations," "Stationery," &c.

The increases shown in the Expenditure, 1901-1902, were chiefly due to additions to departmental establishments, rendered necessary by developments in the Administration; for example, the post of Government Secretary was filled, "Survey" and "Education" Departments were formed, and a political and clerical staff for the new districts appointed. Against the new head, "Educational," was debited the "Grants to Missions," an expenditure charged in 1900-1901 against the head "Aborigines."

The increase under "West African Frontier Force" is explained as below:—

	£
Increase on personal emoluments	8,000
New Sub-heads.	
Purchase of new guns, &c.	4,000
Recruiting bounties and outfit allowances to officers	1,000

The following table shows the respective increases under "Personal Emoluments" and "Other Charges" during the three years mentioned:—

Year.	Expenditure on Personal Emoluments.	Expenditure on other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1899–1900	89,517	86,622	176,139
1900–1901	116,548	189,644	306,192
1901–1902	136,534	194,861	331,396

Legislation Affecting Revenue during the Financial Year 1901–1902.

Attention has already been drawn to the Spirit Licence Proclamation, 1901 (No. 2 of 1901).

The ad valorem duty was increased from five to ten per cent. by the Amended Customs Tariff Proclamation (No. 10 of 1901), which came into operation on April 1st, 1901 (*see* note and observations on the comparative statement of revenue).

The Patents Proclamation, 1900 (No. 27 of 1900), under which fees are payable in respect of patents, came into operation on January 1st, 1901.

The General Registry Proclamation, 1901 (No. 6 of 1901), and the Lands Registry Proclamation, 1901 (No. 18 of 1901), came into operation on September 1st, 1901; as fees are payable under these laws for recording documents, they may be regarded as having created a small source of revenue.

The Weights and Measures Proclamation (No. 7 of 1901) and the Merchant Shipping Fees Proclamation, 1902 (No. 5 of 1902), were passed but did not operate within the financial year. Of the latter law it may be pointed out that its effect will not be to increase revenue, as, in the main, it merely legalises those fees, chargeable for ship papers, which were formerly payable under the Consular Jurisdiction.

Assets and Liabilities.

As already stated, there was a surplus of revenue over expenditure of £30,419 during the year 1901-1902. This surplus would, however, have been greatly reduced if it had been practicable to bring to account, within the year, all the expenditure actually incurred in connection with the Aro Expedition.

The return of Assets and Liabilities (*see* Appendix A) shows an excess of Assets over Liabilities of £178,517, as compared with £144,177, the corresponding excess shown in the same return for 1900-1901.

Leaving out of the account the deposits due by and advances due to the Protectorate, which practically balance themselves, the excess Asset balance is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
(i.) Cash in chests...	50,692	7	11
(ii.) Cash in transit, &c.	19,897	14	8
(iii.) Surplus funds invested by Crown Agents	97,000	0	0
	167,590	2	7
(iv.) Investments for specific purposes...	11,841	0	5
	179,431	3	0
Deduct difference between deposits (and drafts) and advances	913	4	2
Excess of Assets over Liabilities ...	£178,517	18	10

Of the surplus funds invested by the Crown Agents, £60,000 was thus dealt with during the year.

Currency.

The accepted currency is English. By the Native Currency Proclamation (No. 14 of 1902) brass-rods and manillas were made legal tender in all native markets in which they had previously been current, and, by section 8, brass-rods were made currency, at the rate of four rods to one shilling, in all native markets and other places in which such rods had before been current.

Manillas are, however, only tender in the native markets above specified, and their value in sterling is fixed, by the Proclamation and by Order No. 6 of 1902, at rates varying from four to twenty-four to the shilling according to the species of manilla, there being no less than five of such species.

It may be mentioned that an Order in Council, dated the 19th of November, 1902, made under the Coinage Acts, 1870, and 1891, was passed during the year but was not published until the 31st of January, 1903.

Under clause IX. of Rule No. 2 of 1901, in districts in which it is impracticable to enforce payment of Native Court fees or fines in cash, it is lawful for the person concerned to discharge his obligations by making payment in brass-rods, manillas, cloth, or other "trade goods" (except gin).

Imports and Exports during the Calendar Year 1902.

Duties.

In the following table the expression "Free Imports" includes only those articles which are exempted from import duty irrespective of the position of the importer; no duty is paid on kerosene oil or on lumber imported by the Government, but the value of such importations is shown in the table under "Specific Imports" and "Ad valorem Imports" respectively, because the exemption from duty is due, in such cases, to the position of the importer. The "Free Imports" include specie; the amount of the latter imported in 1901 was £209,822, as compared with £164,088 in 1902:—

—	1901.	1902.
	£	£
Free Imports by the Public	122,553	137,195
Free Imports by Governments of Northern and Southern Nigeria.	231,876	178,239
Specific Imports by the Public	265,171	318,221
Specific Imports by the two Governments	12,633	4,866
Ad valorem Imports by the Public	549,927	520,393
Ad valorem Imports by the two Governments ...	114,953	87,565
Total Imports on which duties were paid	815,098	838,614
Total Imports	1,297,116	1,246,481

The imports on which duty is paid may be fairly regarded as indicating the condition of trade, and it is therefore important to note, that although the total imports in 1902 were £50,635 less in value than in the previous year, yet that the value of those imports on which duty was paid was £23,516 more in 1902 than in 1901. The progress, to which attention is thus specially drawn, is however less satisfactory when it is also noted that there was a decrease of £29,534 in the value of the "ad valorem" goods imported in 1902, and that the increase was entirely due to the larger amount of "Specific" goods imported, namely, £53,050 more in value in 1902 than in the previous year.

Having dealt with the value of the imports in 1901 and 1902, it is now convenient to refer to the duties collected, which were as follows:—

—	1901.	1902.
	£	£
Specific Duties	299,080	355,329
Ad valorem Duties ...	48,094	51,285
Total	347,174	406,615

The above figures require explanation on two points. The fact that more ad valorem duty was collected in 1902, although the value of the imports subject to that duty was £29,534 less than in 1901, is due to the increase in the duty from 5 per cent. to 10 per cent. having only been in operation during the last three quarters of the year 1901.

The value of the goods subject to specific duty and imported in 1902 was only £53,050 more than in 1901; the amount of the increase in the specific duties collected in 1902 was, however, £56,249 more than in 1901; the fact that the increase in the duty collected was more than the increase in the value of the goods, is due to the duty being in certain cases higher than the value of the goods, for example, the value of the increased quantity of gin and gunpowder imported in 1902, as compared with 1901, was £27,521, while the increase in the specific duties paid was £46,176.

The import and export returns of the Protectorate include the imports and exports passing through the Protectorate from or to Northern Nigeria and the Kamerun, and import duties are levied in the Protectorate on all such imports, subject, however, in the case of imports to the Kamerun, to substantial rebates. The Customs arrangements are such that the value of the exports and imports thus passing through the Protectorate is approximately known; according to the departmental returns, the amount of the import duty collected from imports consigned to Northern Nigeria amounted to £12,945 in 1902, as compared with £11,266 in 1901, and £9,359 in 1900. The value of the imports into Kamerun in 1902 was £13,230. The exports from Northern Nigeria and from the Kamerun are shown in detail in Appendix B.

Direction of Trade.

The following statement shows the imports from the United Kingdom, the Colonies, and Foreign countries respectively during the years mentioned:—

1900.

——	Imports.	Specie.	Imports less Specie.
	£	£	£
From United Kingdom ...	927,905	130,850	797,055
„ Colonies	6,256	4,399 (Landana.)	1,857
„ Foreign Countries ...	181,421	60	181,361
Totals... ...	1,115,583	135,309	980,274

1901.

—	Imports.	Specie.	Imports less Specie.
	£	£	£
From United Kingdom ...	1,072,962	205,222	867,740
„ Colonies	4,708	2.700 (Germany.)	2,008
„ Foreign Countries ...	219,445	1,900	217,545
Totals... ...	1,297,116	209,822	1,087,294

1902.

—	Imports.	Specie.	Imports less Specie.
	£	£	£
From United Kingdom ...	1,004,958	157,775	847,183
„ Colonies	3,032	900	2,132
„ Foreign Countries ...	238,490	5,413°	233,077
Totals... ...	1,246,481	164,088	1,082,393

° Germany £2,207. Kotonou £2,800. Kamerun £406.

The foregoing statement shows a decrease in the importations from the United Kingdom and an increase in the imports from Foreign countries, and the following statement shows how the increase is apportioned between the several countries therein mentioned:—

Imports from (less Specie).

—	1900.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£
African Ports	1,125	7,488	8,344
American, United States...	6,053	4,663	3,986
Belgium	14	—	—
France	—	2,351	—
Germany	87,489	102,108	111,798
Holland	83,378	29,565	105,239
Portuguese (Col.)... ...	88	163	106
Spanish (Col.)	3,214	3,027	3,604
Total	181,361	217,545	233,077

Having called attention to the general direction of the import trade, it is necessary to give, with respect to those imports which show a variation, such explanation as is practicable, having regard to the fact that there is no Chamber of

Commerce in the Protectorate. The following table should be studied in connection with the subsequent remarks :—

Articles.	Total Values.		United Kingdom.			Germany.			Holland.			Importations from "Other Countries" during 1902.
	1901.	1902.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1900.	1901.	1902.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Aërated waters	5,382	3,860	3,712	3,945	3,182	922	1,318	616	9	119	60	2
Ale, beer, porter, cider, &c.	3,962	4,799	2,076	2,273	2,631	2,079	1,689	2,016	17	—	143	9
Bags and sacks	11,435	10,396	10,908	10,308	9,304	894	1,127	1,086	—	—	2	4
Beads	8,041	8,224	8,963	6,232	6,337	2,380	1,793	1,771	11	16	—	116
Beef and pork	8,806	9,946	8,684	8,651	9,177	68	155	768	—	—	—	1
Building materials ...	45,567	50,591	42,337	43,816	48,005	2,809	1,391	1,826	419	360	556	204
Boats and canoes... ...	4,860	3,513	5,336	4,668	3,000	143	192	409	—	—	—	104
Brandy	1,008	787	631	934	734	79	74	50	1	—	—	3
Bread and biscuits ...	5,159	5,439	5,736	5,159	5,432	—	—	5	—	—	—	2
Chemicals and Drugs ...	7,358	6,804	6,702	7,338	6,735	31	20	61	—	—	—	8
Coal	14,439	24,960	17,114	13,893	23,919	1,292	546	1,031	1,089	—	—	10
Cooper's stores	69,966	82,711	61,581	62,203	75,403	414	814	878	3,700	6,949	6,390	40
Cotton goods	263,093	244,023	271,477	256,157	230,619	2,037	4,976	11,571	475	1,960	406	1,427
Cane Guns	3,369	2,318	4,187	2,599	1,550	641	191	107	4,010	579	640	21
Earthenware	9,199	6,704	8,858	8,856	5,906	1,066	333	608	—	10	158	32
Furniture...	12,876	9,553	5,378	10,575	7,671	1,375	2,297	1,778	3	4	29	75
Gin and Geneva	117,597	139,981	1,523	1,834	2,079	30,342	39,632	47,815	67,250	76,131	90,084	3
Gunpowder	3,029	8,167	7,029	2,758	7,515	329	271	323	—	—	—	329
Haberdashery	2,361	1,546	4,389	2,309	1,285	31	52	133	—	—	—	128
Hardware and cutlery ...	69,536	72,589	36,848	55,333	59,545	10,305	9,215	9,078	4,493	4,988	3,805	161
Kerosene and lamp oil ...	1,046	6,896	167	913	820	40	133	780	—	—	—	5,296

General Direction of the Import Trade—continued.

Articles.	Total Values.		United Kingdom.			Germany.			Holland.			Importations from "Other Countries" during 1902.
	1901.	1902.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1900.	1901.	1902.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Liqueurs	556	233	116	183	146	798	346	87	—	19	—	—
Perfumery	1,586	2,338	529	600	1,010	2,062	986	1,235	25	—	89	4
Pipes	1,772	2,874	1,372	1,714	2,765	34	16	62	110	42	39	8
Provisions	42,263	38,682	28,530	39,376	34,235	2,438	2,802	2,895	44	85	388	1,164
Rice	23,092	19,565	17,122	21,543	18,383	1,689	1,525	1,093	—	24	36	53
Rum	7,571	7,978	2,502	2,028	1,539	10,083	5,098	4,992	18	445	101	1,346
Salt	26,320	31,806	34,115	26,282	31,740	—	36	63	—	2	—	3
Silk goods...	15,374	11,277	17,290	12,681	8,534	3,600	2,693	2,618	—	—	—	125
Soap	9,403	11,054	9,251	9,215	10,739	189	188	309	—	—	—	6
Sugar	4,500	4,627	3,044	4,451	4,572	3	49	47	—	—	—	8
Tobacco, unmanufactured	62,062	77,880	67,588	62,062	75,302	49	—	2,552	—	—	—	26
Umbrellas...	6,787	6,732	5,747	6,502	6,374	394	285	317	—	—	—	41
Wearing apparel... ...	37,915	25,517	27,616	36,891	23,609	1,115	945	1,650	88	79	43	215
Whisky	5,283	6,501	5,064	5,268	6,482	46	15	15	—	—	—	4
Wines	5,501	5,719	5,432	4,760	4,935	264	703	662	1	38	11	111
Woollen goods	12,136	10,608	7,592	115,558	10,033	217	333	279	305	245	282	14
Totals	930,210	947,198	729,732	755,868	731,247	80,258	82,239	101,586	82,068	92,055	103,262	11,103

It will be noticed that the importation of many articles decreased in 1902. In the following cases this diminution affected the United Kingdom more than Germany:—Provisions, rice, bags and sacks, cotton goods, silk goods, umbrellas, wearing apparel, earthenware, furniture, and, lastly, haberdashery.

The decrease in provisions and rice is due to the larger importation by the Government in 1901 in connection with the supply of troops and carriers for the Aro expedition.

Cotton Goods.—The departmental explanation is, that at the time when the Folded Woven Goods Proclamation, 1900, came into operation, an exceptionally large stock of cotton goods was imported from the United Kingdom, but that the stock, of all such goods imported from Germany, was small. The figures which show a constant decrease in the importations of this article from the United Kingdom since 1900, and a progressive increase in the imports from Germany, are consistent with the theory, that the British goods are being worked off as far as possible; this would account for new goods not being ordered freely until the old stock is exhausted.

Earthenware.—Enamel-ware of cheap manufacture from Germany is superseding earthenware.

In the report on the Blue Book for 1900, attention was drawn to the fact that the only cases in which the imports (referred to in a similar list) from the United Kingdom were exceeded by the imports from other countries, were:—(1) perfumery, (2) gin, and (3) liqueurs. It will be noticed that since 1900 the imports of perfumery and of liqueurs from the United Kingdom have increased favourably as compared with those from Germany.

Of the several imports which showed an increase, the only one in which Germany obtained a larger proportion of the increase than the United Kingdom, was in "ale, beer, &c."

For the most part articles are imported in packages of various sizes (unfortunately this is the case with "cotton goods") so that it is not possible to ascertain whether the variations in the value of the imports is due to changes in price, or to an increase or decrease in quantities.

The following statement shows the quantities imported of the three articles named:—

Unmanufactured tobacco,	1900	3,055,950	lbs.
„ „	1901	2,685,548	„
„ „	1902	3,276,520	„
Gin and Geneva	1900	913,409	galls.
„ „ „	1901	1,332,408	„
„ „ „	1902	1,542,134	„
Coal	1900	10,850	tons.
„	1901	10,378	„
„	1902	17,497	„

In the table the imports from "other countries" are shown but are of no great importance. Provisions and cotton goods came from the Kamerun, rum from Canary, and kerosene from the United States of America.

Exports (Direction of Trade).

Although Foreign countries, as has been pointed out, have increased their importations into the Protectorate in a greater proportion than the United Kingdom, the contrary is the case with regard to exports from the Protectorate. The following statement shows the direction of trade during the years mentioned:—

1900.

——	Exports.	Specie.	Exports less Specie.
	£	£	£
To United Kingdom ...	672,900	20	672,880
„ Colonies	215	—	215
„ Foreign Countries ...	460,488	—	460,488
Totals	1,133,604	20	1,133,584

1901.

——	Exports.	Specie.	Exports less Specie.
	£	£	£
To United Kingdom ...	798,693	25,601	773,092
„ Colonies	7,487	7,360	127
„ Foreign Countries ...	447,525	—	447,525
Totals	1,253,706	32,961	1,220,745

1902.

——	Exports.	Specie.	Exports less Specie.
	£	£	£
To United Kingdom ...	820,057	2,000	818,057
„ Colonies	146	—	146
„ Foreign Countries ...	434,492	—	434,492
Totals	1,254,696	2,000	1,252,696

A similar statement to the above has already been given with respect to imports, and, on comparison, it will be noticed that

the exports (less specie) in 1901 were £133,451 in excess of the imports, and that the excess in 1902 was even larger, as it amounted to £170,303. The exports of specie during the three years 1900, 1901, and 1902 were practically *nil*, and it may be assumed that the specie imported has been absorbed by the currency requirements of the Protectorate. Moreover, less specie was imported in 1902 than in 1901, so that the facts point to the trade in the Protectorate having been exceptionally profitable in 1902 to those engaged therein.

The following table shows the direction of trade to countries other than the United Kingdom during the years mentioned therein, and it will be noticed that while the export trade (less specie) to England (see foregoing statement) increased in 1902 by £44,965 (see statement *supra*), that to Germany showed a relatively small increase only, and that to France and Holland, a reduction of £20,949 and £6,644 respectively:—

Exports to (less Specie).

—	1900.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£
African Ports	518	408	3,126
America, United States ...	—	—	—
Belgium	—	—	—
France	74,156	43,505	22 556
Germany	385,806	392,795	404,637
Holland	8	10,817	4,173
Portuguese (Col.)... ...	—	—	—
Spanish (Col.)	—	—	—
Total	460,488	447,525	434,492

The table given below shows the destination of the various articles exported during the years mentioned, and in connection with this table it may be convenient to quote the quantities of the two principal articles exported as a check on the values:—

Palm oil ... {
1900—value, £491,130.
quantity, 9,763,659 gallons.
1901—value, £606,011.
quantity, 12,590,349 gallons.
1902—value, £625,151.
quantity, 12,726,720 gallons.

Palm kernels {
1900—value, £430,016.
quantity, 37,110 tons.
1901—value, £437,092.
quantity, 56,871 tons.
1902—value, £453,084.
quantity, 57,140 tons.

Principal Exports and Countries to which Exported.

Articles.	Total Values.		United Kingdom.			Germany.			France.		
	1901.	1902.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1900.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cocoa	2,138	3,676	2,489	2,740	1,569	220	398	2,081	—	—	—
Coffee	300	206	709	272	123	16	27	82	—	—	—
Ebony	6,009	3,527	1,558	4,879	1,231	106	1,130	2,296	—	—	—
Fibre	3,184	2,845	2,922	3,184	2,814	—	—	30	—	—	—
Ground Nuts	—	1,917	3,704	—	1,917	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gum copal	115	9,064	1,512	115	9,029	1	—	35	—	—	—
Ivory	10,995	9,629	12,872	10,635	9,271	922	359	358	—	—	—
Native timber lumber ...	11,228	13,235	6,792	10,946	9,710	221	282	3,524	—	—	—
Miscellaneous products...	30,629	22,947	33,716	19,395	16,152	66	8,781	5,351	3,276	2,421	1,436
Palm kernels	437,092	453,084	83,019	68,552	91,859	346,997	360,605	357,094	—	—	—
Palm kernel shells ...	1,005	3,655	637	1,005	3,655	—	—	—	—	—	—
Palm oil	606,011	625,151	392,156	542,111	581,069	28,094	19,928	25,145	70,880	41,084	18,936
Rubber	106,924	46,945	128,440	105,818	45,602	8,848	1,094	1,343	—	—	—
Totals ...	1,215,630	1,195,881	670,526	769,652	774,001	385,491	392,604	397,339	74,156	43,505	20,372

It will be noticed that six of the articles in the above list show a decrease in 1902, as compared with the previous year.

The Forestry Laws do not apply to ebony, and the official statistics do not give any clue from which the cause of the decrease can be inferred. The fact that the export of ebony to Germany increased, although that to the United Kingdom decreased is, however, possibly due to market prices, the export to Germany having averaged 77*s.* per ton of ebony, as compared with 59*s.* per ton in the case of the United Kingdom.

The decrease in ivory is chiefly due to a decrease in the amount sent forward, through the Protectorate, from Northern Nigeria and Kamerun.

The decrease in the export of "Miscellaneous Products" is undoubtedly due to the decrease in the export of "Shea nuts" sent forward from Northern Nigeria, which shows a falling off of £9,000.

The decrease in the export of rubber has been continuous since 1900. In that year 2,251,315 lbs. was exported, in 1901 the amount was only 1,740,156 lbs., and in 1902 there was a further decrease to 865,834 lbs. It may be mentioned that slightly more rubber, coming from Northern Nigeria, was exported from the Protectorate during 1902 than in the previous year, so that the decline is due to causes operating in the Protectorate.

The timber industry in the Protectorate, which has increased since 1900 in proportions very similar to the decrease in rubber, has attracted many who formerly collected rubber, and the legislation which has stopped the destruction of rubber trees is probably a second cause which accounts for the decline.

The increase in the export of cocoa to Germany and the decrease in the export of that commodity to the United Kingdom, cannot be accounted for by a difference in the market prices, as according to the value given in the export entries, the price in the United Kingdom was slightly in excess of that in Germany.

Groundnuts are chiefly exported from Northern Nigeria through the Protectorate, and the variations in the export of this article are consequently not due to causes operating in the Protectorate.

The non-existence of a Chamber of Commerce makes it difficult to explain the variations in the exports and imports, and of the increase in the export of gum copal. Of the last-mentioned increase, all that can be said, is, that it was not caused by any increase in the quantity exported, through the Protectorate, from the Kamerun or from Northern Nigeria.

The table of exports, set out above, also shows that the increase in the total export trade to the United Kingdom, as compared with the total export trade elsewhere, is due to the increased exports of gum copal and to an increase in the export of the main articles of export, viz., palm oil and palm kernels. With

regard to the decrease in the export of palm oil to France, and the corresponding increase in the export to the United Kingdom, it should be borne in mind, that vessels may have cleared for the United Kingdom and have changed their destination, as they, not infrequently, call at the Canary Islands for orders.

The increase in the export of native timber lumber to Germany, is probably due to German firms having devoted more attention to the timber industry than formerly.

AGRICULTURE.

The chief exports from the Protectorate are, as has already been pointed out, palm oil and palm kernels, and the supply of these is not dependent upon cultivation. The oil palm grows in such profusion throughout the delta portion of the Protectorate that the problem is not how its growth may be improved by cultivation, but how the produce can be collected, prepared, and brought to market in larger quantities. In the higher lands, however, the country becomes agricultural in the proper sense; being extensively cultivated with yam, cassava, maize, and similar crops required for local consumption. The principle of rotation of crops is unknown, it being the custom to clear land, to take one or sometimes two crops therefrom, and then to allow the land to become overgrown and remain in that condition for from five to seven years, when clearing again takes place and the above process is repeated. At present, cocoa cultivation is on a small scale and is not well understood. The same want of knowledge is shown in the cultivation of cotton, although the latter has been long grown in many parts of the Protectorate; for example, the soil is not properly turned or cleaned, there is no banking up and no thinning. At the end of 1902 an expert in cotton cultivation arrived in the Protectorate, and an experiment, originating with the British Cotton Growing Association, was started, aiming at improving and extending the cultivation of cotton with a view to the latter being ultimately exported on a large scale. Earlier in the year experiments had been made in growing cotton from American seed, and although these experiments were inconclusive, they supplied data as to the best time for planting, &c., which were of value to the expert above referred to.

Owing to the low price of coffee, the plantations at Nkissi, which were taken over by the Government from the Niger Company in 1900, did not prove remunerative.

Allusion has already been made to the increase in the export of "Lumber (native timber)," which rose from 128,622 square feet in 1901 to 164,630 square feet in 1902, and which, in view of favourable prices, is likely to continue to increase. In the

districts whence this timber is obtained, there is as little prospect of an advance being made in agriculture as in those parts of the delta where the natives have been long accustomed to regard the oil palm as a sufficient source of wealth. It may therefore be said of a large portion of the Protectorate, that there is no likelihood of, and little to be gained from, an improved system in agriculture, but that, in the remainder, much remains to be done.

SHIPPING.

In most Colonies there is a close relation between the statistics relating to imports and exports and the shipping returns, but this is not the case in Southern Nigeria, as such returns include the small steamers plying between Forcados and Lagos for the purpose of transhipping Lagos cargo, while the statistics of imports and exports do not include such cargo. For the above reason it is necessary to eliminate from the shipping returns the statistics relating to the above-mentioned small steamers (Lagos branch boats), in order that a clear idea may be formed of the relative progress of foreign and British shipping. The table set out below enables this to be done:—

—	British Steamers.			Foreign Steamers.			Total.		
	1900.	1901.	1902.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1900.	1901.	1902.
Entered with cargoes	221	203	244	13	28	39	234	231	283
Lagos Branch Boats entered with cargoes	106	81	110	—	—	—	106	81	110
Entered in ballast	12	23	16	0	0	7	12	23	16
Lagos Branch Boats entered in ballast	8	12	14	—	—	—	8	12	14
Total entered	233	226	260	13	28	46	246	254	306
Total Lagos Branch Boats	114	93	124	—	—	—	114	93	124
Cleared with cargoes	205	192	205	12	30	41	217	222	246
Lagos Branch Boats cleared with cargoes	96	70	79	—	—	—	96	70	79
Cleared in ballast	22	26	48	1	0	4	23	26	52
Lagos Branch Boats cleared in ballast	19	19	42	—	—	—	19	19	42
Total cleared	227	218	253	13	30	45	240	248	298
Total Lagos Branch Boats	115	89	121	—	—	—	115	89	121

The above table shows that during the years 1900, 1901, and 1902 the total number of British steamers (excluding the Lagos branch boats), entered and cleared, was 132, 161, 182, and 125, 159 and 177 respectively. The table also shows that the comparatively large number of British steamers which cleared in ballast is in reality due to the Lagos branch boats coming to Lagos with produce and returning in ballast.

The Woermann Line (German) commenced running in 1902, and this fact explains the increase in foreign shipping. The British steamers (excluding the Lagos branch boats) had a greater average tonnage than the German, and the ratio between crew and tonnage was higher in the former steamers than in German.

The shipping returns in the Blue Book show great variations in the tonnage entered and cleared at the different Protectorate ports, and these are due to alterations in the manner in which the steamship companies ran their ships, *e.g.*, vessels for Brass went direct to that port without calling at Forcados.

The total number of steamers entered at the Protectorate ports during 1902 was, as shown in the above table, 306, and the tonnage, 361,528, and crew, 13,085, as compared with 284,986 and 10,650 respectively in the previous year, and 251,615 and 10,025 in 1900.

Referring to the previous part of this Report, it will be remembered that the export of palm oil to France fell from £70,880 in 1900 to £41,084 in 1901, and to £18,936 in 1902, and it was pointed out that the figures quoted did not necessarily indicate correctly the position of the export trade to France. The shipping returns also give no clue to the export trade with that country, as no steamer cleared for France in 1900, and only one cleared in each of the two succeeding years. In 1902 the destination of the 298 steamers which cleared from the Protectorate was:—United Kingdom, 99, Germany, 49, Lagos branch boats, 121, Kamerun, 12 (a large increase due to the vessels of the Woerman Line), Fernando Po, 7, France, 1, Rotterdam, 2, and other ports, 9.

LEGISLATION.

The laws made in 1901 amended those which it was necessary to pass early in 1900 when the Order in Council of 1899, creating the constitution of the Protectorate, came into operation. In 1902 it was decided that it would be convenient to accelerate the publication of a revised edition of the laws, and accordingly the "Reprint of Laws Proclamation, 1902," (No. 10) was enacted, by which it was provided that all proclamations passed during 1900-1901 should be issued in a revised

form. The revision, thus authorised, was carried out during the year 1902, and, in accordance with the law, a notice was issued to the effect that the revised edition should be deemed to contain all the laws passed during the years 1900 and 1901.

The Police Proclamation, 1902 (No. 4), and the Post Office Proclamation, 1902 (No. 8), are laws which may be described as being the foundation on which the two departments concerned are based.

The Mining Regulation Proclamation, 1902 (No. 18), and Rule No. 7 of 1902, made under that law, introduced a system by which mining licences and mining leases may be obtained from the Chiefs, subject to the assent of the High Commissioner. The law provides that a General Licence is not transferable and is granted for one year only, and that an Exclusive Licence can be assigned, with the written consent of the High Commissioner, and may be granted for a period not exceeding three years. Applications for licences may be made by individuals or by limited companies, but, in the latter case, the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company must be attached to the application, and in all cases an address, within the Protectorate, must be given at which notices, &c., can be served. A General Licence confers the right to prospect for minerals in any part of the Protectorate, which is declared by notice in the Gazette to be open to the holders of General Licences, and an Exclusive Licence confers on the licensee the sole and exclusive right to prospect, within stated limits, for the minerals specified in the licence. If the holder of a licence wishes to obtain a lease, the law requires that he shall mark off the area which he desires to lease by placing his initials on trees or posts at intervals of not more than 400 yards, along the boundaries, and the area which can be leased is limited to one square mile if the land applied for is situated within ten miles of a spot at which minerals have been found, and to five square miles in other cases. No rent is reserved in any mining lease, but the lessee is required to render a correct statement of the net profits made during the preceding year, and the lease is held subject to the condition that the lessee shall pay ten per cent. of the net profits made by him during each year, the amount of such profits being assessed by the High Commissioner upon the basis that the expression "profits" means the "gross profits less the actual cost of working, and less interest charged at the rate of ten per cent. on the capital actually expended on the equipment of works for the development of the mines." The lessee is also required to pay £50 for every square mile or part thereof contained in the land leased. The fee payable in respect of a General Licence is £5 on issue, and also on renewal, and the fees payable in respect of Exclusive Licences are at the rate of £50 per annum for every square mile contained in the area named in the licence.

The Native Currency Proclamation, 1902 (No. 14), and the several laws affecting revenue have been already referred to in this Report.

Under the Native Courts Proclamation, 1901 (No. 25), the Native Councils have power, subject to the approval of the High Commissioner, to make rules embodying any native law, or for promoting trade or providing for the good government of the district over which such Council has jurisdiction. In the annual volume of the laws passed during 1902 will be found examples of the local legislation which has been made under this power. The Protectorate is divided into tribal communities, at the head of each of which there is a Chief assisted by headmen, and the wealth of these communities is charged with the maintenance of the sick, infirm, and aged. In 1902 the majority of the Native Councils passed rules by which the contribution of a trading member, belonging to any one of the communities mentioned, towards the tribal revenue, is fixed at a certain percentage (usually 5 per cent.) on all produce sold by him. Space does not permit this Report dealing with the various examples of the local legislation referred to, but the general principles in accordance with which the High Commissioner grants or withholds his assent to any local law were fixed during 1902, and are to the effect that the idiosyncrasy of each race shall be given full freedom in the making of the local laws, provided that such laws create no class privileges, and contain provisions which experience in other countries shows to be necessary.

EDUCATION.

There are 61 Churches or Chapels in the Protectorate belonging to the following Denominations:—

Church of England	29
United Free (Presbyterian) Church of Scotland	8
Irish Protestant (undenominational)	6
Primitive Methodist	4
Roman Catholic...	14

For many years past the Mission Schools (now 61 in number) connected with these Churches have only been able to provide elementary education, and even this, at first, was almost entirely confined to teaching the scholars to read the Bible in the vernacular; recently, however, the scope has been extended, and the English language is now taught in nearly all the schools. The assistance given by the Government has been in the shape of grants-in-aid, the latter amounting in 1902 to £1,238.

There are no Government Schools in the Protectorate, but there are two schools, supported by contributions from the Chiefs,

supplemented by Government grants-in-aid, which are not under Mission management. The one is the Primary School opened at Benin City in April, 1901, and now having a roll of 61 scholars, of whom 57 were reported by the Inspector of Schools as having made satisfactory progress during 1902. The second non-Mission school is the Ogugumanga Industrial Institute, for intermediate education, founded in April, 1900, and supported by contributions from the Chiefs supplemented by grants-in-aid from the Government and by large contributions from English merchants interested in the progress of education in the Protectorate. With few exceptions the pupils reside at the Institute, and although the annual inspection in 1902 showed that satisfactory progress had been made, it was felt that an enlargement of the school buildings was needed, and it was decided that the Institute should be moved from its present position and that new buildings, with more ample accommodation, should be built on another site close to Bonny and nearer the sea.

The Hope Waddell Institution at Old Calabar, controlled by the United Free Church Mission, receives no direct support from the Chiefs, and is therefore unlike the schools at Benin City and Ogugumanga. Its curriculum embraces industrial work (printing, tailoring, carpentry, &c.), the scholars, the majority of whom are boarders, also receiving a good secondary education. The Institute received, during 1902, from the Government, a grant of £200 in addition to £236 paid in respect of Government pupils.

The short description above given of the educational establishments existing in the Protectorate in 1902 shows, that although a considerable amount of educational work was being done, yet that further progress demanded the creation of a system under which the primary schools could be relied upon for giving systematic education in the lower standards to a sufficient number of scholars to render it possible to establish and maintain schools for the higher standards large enough to justify the engagement of a thoroughly competent teaching staff. The system decided upon provides, for primary schools, a class which would include the Mission Schools above referred to and also schools similar to that established at Benin. The annual expenditure on these schools would be under £100 (one teacher, one pupil-teacher, books and upkeep), and at them a commencement would be made in teaching the three "Rs.," especial care being taken to prevent the children learning by rote—a fault to which African children are, by reason of their remarkable memory, specially prone. The system next provides for intermediate schools, within which class would be included the non-Mission School at Ogugumanga. The pupils at these schools would, previous to their arrival, have passed three years at a primary school, and the intention is that at an intermediate school a boy should receive a sound education up to the level of Standard V. under the Scotch Code, and that

then he should, if showing sufficient aptitude, pass on to the High School, or that, if more fitted for life as an artisan, be apprenticed at one of the Government workshops. With a view to finding in which direction a boy's bent lies, manual training in wood work and the use of tools is given as soon as he has passed the two lower classes, but no attempt is made in the direction of industrial training. The staff at an Intermediate School would include a manager, headmaster, two assistants, three pupil-teachers, and a carpenter, and the estimated annual expenditure would be about £1,500, a sum which necessitates a minimum of 150 pupils, the majority of whom would be boarders. The system is completed by provision being made for a High School at which the boys would be given higher education of a general character as well as special instruction in certain branches of industrial work. It was arranged that this High School should be established in connection with the Hope Waddell Institution above referred to, and that the scheme of work should be settled by a Board of Education of which the resident Principal of the Institute would be a member. The High School will receive boarders and day scholars, all of whom will have to attend daily prayers, but none of whom will receive any special religious instruction if the latter is objected to by the parents or guardians. The cost of the necessary buildings was estimated at £15,000, of which £5,000 has already been expended under the authority of the United Free Church Mission, it being arranged that the balance should be granted by the Government. The annual expenditure is estimated at £3,556, and although it was thought that the High School would become self-supporting at an early date after its establishment, it was arranged that the Mission should bear any loss up to £2,000 per annum, the Government undertaking, on its part, to provide funds for any expenditure over and above that amount, whether required for general maintenance, or upkeep, or for building purposes. Having determined the educational system above-mentioned, the High Commissioner also caused steps to be taken for its introduction, and at the date of this report, the new buildings for the High School are nearing completion; through the liberality of merchants and others in England, £4,500 has been subscribed towards the cost of the new buildings for the Ogugumanga Intermediate School; and, finally, a comprehensive Education Code has been passed under which attendance and results grants will be earnable by all the schools comprised in the system, and, with this monetary aid, there is reason to hope that the primary schools, whether managed by the Missions or by Committees of the Chiefs, will be able to prepare a certain and sufficient supply of pupils for the higher schools.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.

The hospital for Europeans at Old Calabar has six wards each containing one bed, and this accommodation is being increased by building a separate house for the European nurses, thus enabling the whole building to be used for the sick. The hospital at Old Calabar for natives is also being extended by the addition* of a new wing which will increase the number of beds from 26, the present number, to 48. At both hospitals there is ample cubic space, and the arrangements are in every respect up to modern requirements. The two hospitals mentioned and the contagious diseases hospital at Bonny (which latter is exclusively used to relieve "infected" vessels calling at that port) are the only ones which can be regarded as properly established, and are alone referred to in the Blue Book return for 1902. During that year 724 male patients and 63 women were admitted as patients, as compared with 657 and 47 respectively during the previous year. Of the total admitted, 632 patients were cured, 119 were relieved, and 57 died, the remaining 2 being discharged without improvement. Only 1 death resulted from malarial fever, and 2 from blackwater fever, the remainder of the deaths being due to the various diseases described in Appendix C; diseases of the respiratory system (11 deaths), and of the digestive system (15 deaths), being the most fatal.

In addition to the hospitals above described, there are many temporary hospitals, constructed with mat roofs, throughout the Protectorate, none of which can be regarded as established institutions, but all of which are of great value to the district medical officers in connection with their out-patient work amongst the natives. In Appendix C will be found a return showing that the total number of natives who received medical treatment as out-patients during the year amounted to 20,886, of whom 73 died, the most fatal diseases being the same as in the case of the established hospitals. Only 15 cases occurred of small-pox (2 fatal). This small number is to a large extent due to the systematic manner in which vaccinations have, during recent years, been made throughout the Protectorate. The number of successful vaccinations performed at the various stations amounted to 6,258, although there was no epidemic in any district. Experiments have been made with a view to ascertaining whether a supply of lymph can be manufactured locally, and an interesting and hopeful report on this subject has been made by Dr. G. F. Darker. Should the experiments

* The wing is at the date of this report completed and in use.

in this direction prove successful, the great practical difficulty in the way of providing the means for carrying out a system of universal vaccination will be removed, as the wide-spread ravages of specific diseases amongst the natives render arm to arm vaccination inadvisable, unless performed by an expert.

Prisons.

There is one first class prison (Old Calabar) to which all persons sentenced to imprisonment for more than two years are sent; there are four second class prisons in which are incarcerated those sentenced to periods exceeding six months but not over two years; finally, there are 16 lockups in which are imprisoned those sentenced for six months and under. In addition to the above there are 12 Native Court prisons for the detention of those sentenced by those Courts to terms not exceeding one month.

The returns in the Blue Book do not include the lockups or the Native Court prisons, and as prisoners undergoing short terms of imprisonment are received at the first class and at the second class prisons, it follows that there is no connection between the prison returns and the criminal statistics; for example, the returns mentioned show that the total number of persons committed to penal imprisonment during 1902 was 999 (of these, 83 were sentenced for five years or more, 515 for three months or less, and the remainder for intervening periods), while the criminal statistics show that 1,154 were sentenced to imprisonment after summary conviction in addition to 94 cases in which judgment for the Crown was given in the Superior Courts, and in the majority of which, therefore, it may be fairly presumed that sentence of imprisonment was passed. The prison returns show a considerable increase over the figures in 1901, during which 885 persons were committed to penal imprisonment, the increase being probably due to the fresh districts which came under direct control.* The prison at Old Calabar is not yet completed; that at Asaba contains 36 solitary cells for males and 8 for females; the other prisons are being reconstructed. Discipline is maintained, both in the prisons and in the lockups, in accordance with a very complete code of prison rules enacted under power given by the Prison Proclamation, 1900 (No. 17 of 1900), but the punishment of flogging, although sanctioned by the Code, is prohibited in the case of lockups. Penal labour in the form of shot drill was abolished in November, 1902, and offences against discipline are now punished by reduced diet, deduction of marks, solitary confinement, and, in serious cases, by flogging. The

* Errors occur in the Criminal Statistics for 1901 which make it impossible to compare the returns with those relating to 1902.

last-mentioned punishment was inflicted during 1902 in 66 cases, one of the other forms of the former punishments being resorted to with respect to the remainder of the offences, which latter numbered 225.

Prison labour for the most part consists in sanitary work, road cleaning, transport of baggage from mail steamers, and other similar outside work; but at Old Calabar and Asaba some industrial work is done, *e.g.*, mat, screen, and brush making, tailoring, &c. Prisoners sentenced for periods exceeding six months can gain, under the mark system, a maximum remission of one-fourth of their sentence in the case of males, and of one-third in the case of females, and, in addition, are entitled to a gratuity of one penny for every 100 marks earned (eight marks per day being the maximum earnable), such gratuity being the only way in which profits on prison labour are granted to the prisoners.

During the year the scale of diet was amended.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of cases reported in 1902 was only 1,294, although the number of persons committed for want of bail or for punishment amounted to 1,523, and this discrepancy is due to there not having been a fully constituted police force in the Protectorate during 1902, the Police Proclamation of 1902 (No. 4 of 1902) not having been brought into full operation during the year, and consequently many summonses and warrants of arrest having been served or carried out by messengers of the Court.

In 25 cases out of the 33 in which a charge of murder was preferred, a verdict for the Crown was given, and out of the total number (118) of cases tried in the Superior Courts, only 24 were in respect of offences against property.

The criminal statistics contained in the Blue Book do not include those criminal cases which were heard and determined by the Native Courts, the latter having a very extensive criminal jurisdiction, being empowered to pass sentences of imprisonment with hard labour up to two years, and to award fines not exceeding £100. The cases heard and determined by the Native Councils averaged 418 per month, but of this number a proportion, probably about one-half, were civil cases, it not being possible to determine the exact proportion owing to the fact that the native laws do not distinguish, as clearly as is done by

the law of England, between criminal and civil causes. It should also be pointed out that as a general rule resort is only had to the District Courts for the trial of cases in which the accused is not a native of the Protectorate, it having been found that, except in cases of serious crime, the Native Courts, acting as they do under the presidency of a European officer, are able to investigate and determine the more ordinary offences in a more expeditious and satisfactory manner than is practicable in District Courts where the judge does not, as a rule, have the benefit of native assessors. Assuming that the average number of criminal cases tried in these Courts equal 200 per month, it necessarily follows that the value of the criminal statistics is limited to the crimes tried in the Superior Courts.

The offence of prædial larceny, so common in the West Indies, does not appear in the statistics. This is partly explained by the supposition that such offences are disposed of by the Native Courts, but probably the chief explanation lies in the fact that an intending thief is deterred, not only by the fear of detection, but also from dread of the vengeance of the outraged "Field god," whose existence is almost universally believed in.*

VITAL STATISTICS.

(See *ante* "Hospitals.")

No data are available from which the number of the native population of the Protectorate can be inferred with reasonable certainty, and the statistics in the Blue Book relating to births and deaths are confined to the European population, which numbered 404 in 1902, as compared with 397 during the previous year. The "death-rate" and "invaliding-rate" for 1901 and 1902 are shown in the following table, from which it will be observed that the "death-rate" both in the case of officials and non-officials was higher during 1901 than during 1902, as is also the case with the "invaliding-rate" for non-officials; the "invaliding-rate" for officials during 1902, however, was considerably higher than that in the preceding year. It is of course impossible to deduce any conclusion from the statistics of two years, but, in the opinion of the Principal Medical Officer, the improvement in the table set out below tends to indicate

* The widespread belief in this god is shown by the propitiatory offerings which are noticeable in every field. These offerings usually consist of old earthenware pots which, if broken, are laid on the ground, or if sufficiently intact, are balanced upside down on a stick. This display is often accentuated by eggs (invariably bad) or bundles of twisted grass or of short faggots, being placed near the earthenware. Another form of offering consists in some fruit of the field being hung up and pierced in several directions by short sticks.

that the health of the Protectorate is greatly improving, partly in consequence of better sanitation, and partly in consequence of more careful methods of living, including the more general use of quinine (*vide* Appendix D).

COMPARATIVE TABLE of VITAL STATISTICS for 1901 and 1902.

(*vide supra.*)

Class.	Number.	Deaths	Invalided.	Death rate per 1,000.	Invaliding rate per 1,000.
1901. Officials... ...	121	4	15	33	123·9
1902. Officials... ...	125	3	31	24	248
1901. Non-officials ...	276	13	32	47·1	115·9
1902. Non-officials ...	279	8*	17	28·67	60·93
Total or mean rate, 1901 ...	397	17	47	42·82	118·42
Total or mean rate, 1902 ...	404	11	48	27·22	118·81

* Excluding one case of murder.

METEOROLOGICAL RETURNS.

The rainfall was not quite so heavy as in the previous year, the heaviest fall recorded being that at Opobo, in July, which amounted to 49·90 inches. Complete meteorological records were kept throughout the whole year at Old Calabar only, but meteorological stations were started at Asaba, Benin City, and Sapele, the records from which are not included in the returns as they do not relate to the whole year. As the meteorological returns relate only to Old Calabar they cannot be relied upon when considering the probable connection between the changes in the relative humidity, rainfall, &c., during the year, and the "death-rate" or "invaliding-rate," as these rates are based on figures collected from all parts of the Protectorate. A summary of the meteorological returns at Old Calabar for the year 1902 is given below:—

Meteorological Table.

	Temperature.						Rainfall.		Winds.	
	Solar Maximum.	Solar Minimum.	Shade Maximum.	Shade Minimum.	Range.	Mean.	Amount in Inches.	Degree of Humidity.	General Direction.	Average Force.
			Degrees Fahr.	Degrees Fahr.	Degrees Fahr.	Degrees Fahr.				
January	—	—	91	71	20	80·5	—	79·5	N.E.	—
February	—	—	97	71	26	83·5	2·16	78·3	S.W.	—
March	—	—	94	70	24	82·7	15·30	80·8	S.W.	—
April	—	—	93	70	23	83·3	14·54	83·3	S.W.	—
May...	—	—	93	66	27	83·1	18·63	84·5	S.W.	—
June	—	—	90	70	20	80·9	21·85	85·8	S.W.	—
July...	—	—	89	69	20	78·1	20·22	88·3	S.W.	—
August	—	—	86	68	18	78·5	22·53	88·3	S.W.	—
September	—	—	88	69	19	79·4	10·77	85·6	S.W.	—
October	—	—	89	68	21	80·2	17·74	85·4	S.W.	—
November	—	—	90	70	20	82·5	5·21	82·8	N.E.	—
December	—	—	92	64	28	82·9	7·20	79·7	N.E.	—
	—	—	91	68·83	22·16	81·30	156·15	83·52	S.W.	—

POST OFFICE.

The Postal Revenue during 1902 exceeded the expenditure for the first time. The net revenue was £673, as compared with a deficit of £317 in 1901, and £1,359 in 1900:—

—	1900.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£
Total Postal Revenue	1,931	3,577	4,846
Total cost of Postal Service	3,290	3,894	4,173

It will be noticed from the figures given above that the revenue advanced from £1,931 in 1900 to £3,577 in the succeeding year, and to £4,846 in 1902. The increase mentioned is due to the larger amounts received under "Gross Receipts from Letters, Post Cards, Newspapers, Books, and Parcels," under which head of the Postal Revenue is included the sales to collectors of stamps. The knowledge that the Victorian stamps would soon cease to be sold by the Post Office naturally increased the purchases made by stamp collectors, and the amount of purchases of stamps therefore during 1901 and 1902 is probably in excess of the amount which can be relied upon in future years; the stamp sales to dealers amounted to £1,816 in 1901, and £2,819 in 1902; although, therefore, the deficit in 1901 was converted into a profit in 1902, it should be noted that this result is due to a factor which cannot be relied upon in the future. If the purchases by stamp collectors are eliminated from the Postal revenue of 1901 and 1902, it will be found that the revenue shows an increase of £115 during the latter year, and consequently it is incontestable that the Postal revenue shows a progressive increase. The increase of £115 mentioned, would of course have been insufficient to convert the deficit into a profit, but if the sales to collectors continue at a greatly reduced amount, say at the rate of £300 a year only, in future years the Postal Department will pay its way. The actual progress made by the Postal Department is best shown by a comparison of the amount of Postal matter dealt with during the three years 1900, 1901, and 1902; from the following statement it will be seen that the work done by the department has increased progressively during the three years mentioned.

The number of letters and post cards despatched from the Protectorate during the years above-mentioned was as follows:—

(1900) 90,935.
(1901) 98,699.
(1902) 115,853.

Arrangements were made during the year for the entry of the Protectorate into the Postal Union on the 1st October, 1903.

The comparatively large amount of Postal expenditure is due to the cost of conveying mails between the Protectorate Post Offices or to Postal Agents in the remoter districts.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

During 1902 the expenditure amounted to £54,929, showing an increase on that of the previous year of £15,219; the increase is accounted for by the cost of re-arming the artillery, the cost of the new guns and ammunition, clothing, and accoutrements, and lastly, by the increase in the establishment noted above. £45,253 13*s.* 11*d.* was expended in pay and allowances, and £9,675 6*s.* 1*d.* in other charges. The principal items of the latter being:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
New guns and ammunition...	2,174	15	2
Clothing and accoutrements	3,188	4	11
Ammunition purchased and repair of arms	2,571	15	0

During 1902 the Southern Nigeria Regiment of the West African Frontier Force was engaged in military operations in the following districts:—Aro, Awayong, Oza-Akoli, Ibekwe, Afikpo, Nsit, Ngor, and Asaba hinterland. By far the most important of these was the Aro expedition referred to at the beginning of this Report.

In addition to the 900 officers and men of the Southern Nigeria Regiment, 300 from Northern Nigeria, and a similar number from Lagos took part in the Aro expedition, and on the Lower Niger one of the columns brought into action the crew of His Majesty's Gunboat "Thrush," which had been standing by to render assistance if called upon to do so. The main feature in the expedition, from a military point of view, was the use of converging columns—a strategic plan which proved most successful, and resulted in an early submission of the enemy's capital.

The other operations mentioned were all successfully carried out.

Notwithstanding the almost continual fighting, the arduous work, and the unhealthy nature of the country, the casualties

of all ranks have been comparatively few—a result due to the large and systematic use of scouts and flankers. The following figures show the casualties sustained by the Regiment during the year 1902:—

Europeans wounded, 13,
Natives, killed, 41,
Natives, wounded, 167,
Natives, died of disease, 72.

POLICE.

The organisation of the new Police Force has already been mentioned in this Report.

ADMINISTRATION.

STAFF.

The returns for 1902 show that 480 officers had given security, under the Public Officers Guarantee Fund Proclamation of 1900 (No. 5), for the performance of their duties.

Mr. H. N. Thompson was transferred from the Indian Forestry Department and appointed to the service of the Protectorate as Conservator of Forests. Lieutenant-Colonel H. L. Gallwey, C.M.G., senior Divisional Commissioner, was transferred on his appointment as Governor of St. Helena.

The work of the Protectorate is performed at headquarters by the various departments usually organised in Colonial Governments; in the districts the departmental work is performed by or under the supervision of District Commissioners, the latter, in addition to such departmental work, are also responsible for the conduct of Native Affairs. The Protectorate is divided into four divisions, each division being under the supervision of a Divisional Commissioner. The Estimates for 1902-1903 sanctioned the appointment of 14 District Commissioners and 34 Assistant District Commissioners; the area of a district is such that the boundaries are usually two days' march (30 miles) from the District Station. The collection of Customs duties, the trial of serious crimes committed by natives, and the trial of civil and criminal cases in which one or more of the parties is not a native of the Protectorate, comprise the

whole of the direct governing powers* of Administration; indirect governing power exists in the control which the Administration has on the Native Courts, which latter are responsible for the good government and order of the country over which their jurisdiction extends, and also, as has been previously pointed out, possess powers of local legislation. A District Commissioner is, subject to the supervision of the Divisional Commissioner, the representative of the Government in native affairs in his districts, and is *ex officio* President of the Native Courts.

Public Works.

The stern-wheeler "Valiant," with good passenger accommodation and considerable cargo capacity, commenced work on the Niger.

Progress was made in building and equipping a saw-mill and construction yard at Nkissi on the Niger, and the construction of new barracks at Old Calabar was begun.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

From the figures quoted in the earlier portions of this Report it will have been noticed that the export trade of the Protectorate is steadily increasing; special attention has been called to the fact that the value of those articles which were imported by the public during 1902, and which are subject to *ad valorem* duty, decreased in spite of the fact that the disturbance in trade, produced by the Aro expedition, ceased to operate during the last three quarters of that year; that the decrease cannot be accounted for by the amount of the *ad valorem* duty is shown by the fact that the heavy "Specific Duties," did not prevent an increase in the articles imported which are subject to the latter form of duty.† The explanation is, that the principal articles liable to specific duty have, from the commencement of trade in the Protectorate, been favourite commodities and are consequently well-known to the natives; in addition to being well-known to the natives, articles, such as gin and

---

* Describes broadly the practice; the Order in Council gives the High Commissioner all the legislative power of a Crown Colony Government.

† Out of £355,329, the amount collected by means of specific duties £324,000 was collected from gin, rum, unmanufactured tobacco, and gunpowder; the value of the above articles having been declared at £234,006.

tobacco, have long been used as a medium of exchange in consequence of the comparative ease with which they can be conveyed into the interior. Whether the explanation thus suggested is or is not correct, it must be regarded as unsatisfactory that an article such as gin (imported almost exclusively from Holland and Germany) should show an increase, when other articles, all of which are in the *ad valorem* list, show a decline.* Before any substantial increase can be made in the quantity of the many highly useful articles which are subject to *ad valorem* duty, two changes must take place. Firstly, the natives in the interior must be educated into understanding the value of such articles; in some parts of the new districts considerable quantities of palm nuts are allowed to rot merely because the natives are unaware that by collecting such produce and by establishing markets at which it could be sold, they would be able to obtain things (such as the articles in question) which would greatly increase their comfort and improve their health; a movement in this direction has been made by the Niger Company who have established a store at Owerri, but, at the date of this Report, this store is the only one owned by Europeans in the entire districts opened up by the Aro expedition; the native traders in the Delta have not the means, even if they had the will, to properly exploit the districts recently opened up to trade. Secondly, an improvement in the transport system is necessary; if substantial stores are established in the new districts a sufficient amount of produce will be obtained at such stores to make it remunerative to supplement the present system of transport by canoes by running stern-wheelers or launches.†

From the statistics given in this Report it can, I think, be inferred that an increase is probable in all the heads of Revenue; there is nothing, however, to show that this increase will be sensationally large; the best kind of increase (*e.g.*, an increase not due to specific duties on spirits) can only take place with the advance of education, and from the nature of things such advance will be slow. The expansion of a wholesome trade will itself spread cultivation amongst the natives; the natives will also gradually become more cultivated through the influence of the increasing number of those educated in the Protectorate schools; the most widespread, powerful, and rapidly acting influence tending to elevate the natives will,

---

* The following articles in the *ad valorem* list either show a decline or only a small increase; umbrellas, silk, rice, provisions, paint, beef and pork, brushware, building materials, candles, canvas, drugs, cord and twine, cotton goods, earthenware, fish salted, flour, glassware, haberdashery, leather goods, wearing apparel, and woollen goods.

† The Government have spent considerable sums in removing obstructions in the upper portions of the Delta rivers and it is intended that this work should be continued year by year.

however, be found in the Native Councils, *provided the latter are constantly supervised by European officers.* The number of properly constituted and organised Native Councils is increasing, and this increase will be continuous. The increase in the number of Native Councils will necessarily involve an increase in the number of District Commissioners and Assistant District Commissioners, but the extra expenditure thus incurred will be relatively insignificant when compared with the increase in the Revenue of the Protectorate.

L. PROBYN,

Acting High Commissioner.

28th July, 1903.

APPENDIX A.

STATEMENT of ASSETS and LIABILITIES on the 31st MARCH, 1902.

Assets.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Liabilities.	£ s. d.
Balances of the undermentioned accounts :—			Deposits due by the Protectorate	16,640 18 9
Local Cash Accounts	41,433 4 0		Drafts on the Crown Agents (not yet paid)...	151 6 11
Crown Agents' Cash Accounts ...	9,259 3 11			
		50,692 7 11		
Advances due to the Protectorate ...		15,879 1 6		
Remittances to C. A. (not yet collected)	5 0 0			
Remittances to C. A. (in transit) ...	18,394 11 11			
Remittances to Coast (in transit) ...				
Remittances between Chests (in transit)	1,498 2 9			
		19,897 14 8		
Investments :—				
Yacht "Ivy" Depreciation Fund ...		9,518 7 3		
Yacht "Ivy" Repair Fund		1,004 5 5		
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund ...		937 8 7		
Coin Repatriation Fund		380 19 2		
Surplus Fund		97,000 0 0		
Total Assets		195,310 4 6	Total Liabilities	16,792 5 8
Excess of Liabilities over Assets ...		—	Excess of Assets over Liabilities	178,517 18 10
		195,310 4 6		195,310 4 6

APPENDIX B.

TABLE 1.

EXPORTS from NORTHERN NIGERIA.

Articles.	Value— December 31st, 1900.	Value— December 31st, 1901.	Value— December 31st, 1902.
	£	£	£
Benni seed	261	339	778
Beeswax	17	67	101
Capiscums	274	163	875
Deer skins	28	96	7
Dyed skins... ...	—	—	11
Ebony	—	—	19
Gambia pods ...	29	32	55
Groundnuts ...	3,750	1,166	1,959
Gum arabic ...	1,563	3,448	3,410
Gum copal	—	—	920
Gum elemi	—	—	173
Ivory	11,815	9,051	8,581
Kino	—	—	11
Mandioca	243	93	11
Oguru seed... ...	—	—	705
Palm kernels ...	3,046	3,242	10,482
Rubber	11,905	21,331	21,928
Shea butter ...	14,412	6,162	4,181
Shea nuts	10,913	26,489	11,024
Tin	—	—	79
Wood oil	522	1,579	3,132
Igara kernels ...	—	7	—
Indigo	—	17	—
Totals	58,778	73,282	68,442

TABLE 2.

EXPORTS from KAMERUN passing through SOUTHERN NIGERIA in 1902.

Articles.	Quantity.	Value.	Remarks.
	Tons	£ s. d.	
Ebony	249	720 18 2	
	Lbs.		
Ivory...	1,001	162 17 3	
	Tons		
Palm Kernels ...	35	129 4 6	
	Imp. Gallons		
Palm Oil	90	3 2 7	
	Lbs.		
Rubber	24 676	803 19 5	
	Packages		
Native Curios ...	13	92 13 7	
		1,912 15 6	

APPENDIX C.

Natives (Extern).

Return of Diseases and Deaths in 1902 at Old Calabar, Cross River, Opobo, Degama, Bonny, Owerre, Bende, Brass, Akassa, Warei, Sapele, Benin City, Asaba, and Agberi.

Diseases.	Remaining in Hospital at the end of 1901.	Yearly Total.		Total Cases Treated.	Remaining in Hospital at the end of 1902.	Remarks.
		Admissions.	Deaths.			
Malarial Fever	1	781	1	782	3	
Haemoglobinuric Fever	—	1	—	1	—	
Unclassified ,, ...	—	149	—	149	2	
Enteric ,, ...	—	—	—	—	—	
Variola	—	7	2	7	—	
Varicella	—	21	1	21	—	
Dysentery	1	117	8	118	4	
Beri Beri	3	13	—	16	—	
Yaws	—	5	—	5	2	
Tetanus	—	—	—	—	—	
Tubercle	—	18	—	18	—	
Leprosy	—	5	—	5	—	
Syphilis	—	70	—	70	5	
Gonorrhoea	3	365	—	368	12	
Parasitic Diseases	1	804	2	805	6	
Guinea Worm	—	35	—	35	—	

Filaria	—	1	—	1	—
Rheumatism	7	2,095	—	2,102	13
Gout	—	—	—	—	—
Anaemia	—	48	—	48	—
Debility	—	10	2	10	—
Undefined	15	1,189	1	1,204	—
Diseases of Nervous System	1	288	3	289	2
„ „ Eye	2	380	—	382	3
„ „ Ear	3	203	—	206	—
„ „ Circulatory System	—	89	3	89	1
„ „ Respiratory „	5	2,277	19	2,282	28
„ „ Digestive „	3	4,204	12	4,207	10
„ „ Lymphatic „	6	344	—	350	9
„ „ Genito-Urinary System	5	319	4	324	6
„ „ Organs Locomotion	—	288	—	288	—
„ „ Connective Tissue	3	999	1	1,002	37
„ „ Skin	14	2,159	—	2,173	7
Injuries, General	—	4	4	4	—
„ Local	8	3,079	10	3,087	51
Influenza	—	36	—	36	—
Measles	—	5	—	5	—
Whitlow	—	3	—	3	—
Neoplasm	—	1	—	1	—
Ainhum	—	1	—	1	—
Vaccination	—	10	—	10	—
Abscesses and Ulcers	—	382	—	382	24
Total	81	20,805	73	20,886	226

APPENDIX D.

STATISTICAL TABLE showing AVERAGE EUROPEAN POPULATION, and DEATH-RATE per cent. from 1894 to 1902.

Year.	Population.	Death-rate, per cent.	Remarks.
1894–1895 ...	214	7·47	
1895–1896 ...	215	8·83	
1896–1897 ...	214	9·81	
1897–1898 ...	206	7·2	
1898–1899 ...	227	6·16	
1899–1900 ...	270	7·40	
1900–1901 ...	316	6 32	
1901	397	4·28	Calendar year first time adopted.
1902	404	2·72	

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1903.

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No. 433.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

REPORT FOR 1903.

(For Report for 1902, *see* No. 405.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1904.

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No. 433.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

(For Report for 1902, *see* No. 405.)

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1903.

FINANCIAL.

1. The revenue for the financial year 1902-3, ending on 31st March, 1903, received from all sources amounted to £440,809, while the expenditure for the period amounted in the aggregate to £455,293. In addition to the revenue collected during the year a cash balance of £50,692 was brought forward from the previous year which gave a total sum of £491,501 available for expenditure.

Revenue.

2. The following comparative statement shows the sources from which the revenue was derived during the three years 1900-1, 1901-2, 1902-3.

—	1900–1901.	1901–1902.	1902–1903.
	£	£	£
Customs	362,472	335,929	410,041*
Licences, &c.	2,050	5,407	4,789
Fees (payments for specific services) ...	6,513	9,326	10,028
Postal Revenue	2,365	4,341	4,944
Miscellaneous	7,492	6,810	11,007
Totals	380,894	361,815	440,809

* Specific duty, £355,250. *Ad valorem* duty £54,791.

875 Wt 22378 10/04 D & S 5 19298

The revenue for the year 1902-3 exceeded that of the previous year by £78,994. This increase was largely due to a more settled state of affairs in the country generally. The expedition in the Aro country was completed in March, 1902, and trade, which had never quite stopped, revived considerably in the oil-producing areas. The financial year of the Protectorate is from the 1st April to the 31st March, and for this period, 1902-3, the revival of trade continued. Importers had ordered large consignments previous to the conclusion of military operations and these orders swelled the imports for the third and fourth quarters of the year 1902. In this connection the revenue derived from Customs duties for the period, *i.e.*, the financial year, is to be observed. The amount of duty collected from specific goods imported shows an increase of £71,468: an increase of £2,644, only, appears under *ad valorem*. The amount collected from *ad valorem* duties for 1901-2 was £24,114 in excess of that collected in 1900-1; but it must be observed that on the 1st April, 1901, *ad valorem* duty was increased from 5 per cent. to 10 per cent. The duty collected on "specific" goods for the same period amounted to £50,651 less. These figures taken together indicate heavy importations in 1902 and that the increase of revenue under *ad valorem* duties in 1903 is satisfactory.

3. The increase under "Fees" of £701 arises principally from export dues on timber.

4. During the year the stock of old stamps was withdrawn and the King's head series issued. This was necessarily anticipated by an extensive purchase of stamps by collectors. The increase (£602) under this head therefore does not imply an increase of postal business. "Money Order Commissions," a sub-head under "Fees," shows an increase of £57 over the sum (£265) realised in 1901-2: this is insignificant in amount but appreciable in a small community.

5. The amount of revenue collected under "Miscellaneous" shows an increase of £4,196 compared with the receipts for the previous year. The increases occurred under "Sale of seized property," £165; "Interest," £388; and "Other services unspecified," £5,492. An amount of £3,169 charged to the Government of the Gold Coast on account of the Ashanti Expedition was credited to the last-mentioned sub-head.

6. The foregoing paragraphs deal with the period of the financial year as has hitherto been customary, but this year has so long closed that the figures have lost much of their interest. Similar information is therefore given so far as it can be ascertained—with accounts kept for years ending on 31st March—for the calendar year, 1903.

7. The revenue for the calendar year 1903 received from all sources amounted to £429,283. The following statement shows how it is derived.

1903.

Calendar Year.

Head.	1st January to 31st December.
	£
Customs duties	460,145*
Licences, &c.	4,083
Fees, &c.	8,440
Postal Revenue	4,549
Miscellaneous	12,066
Total...	429,283†

* £399,116 less rebates.

† Total for the quarter 1st January to 31st March, £85,678.

Legislation affecting Revenue.

8. The European Reservation Proclamation, No. 16 of 1902, came into operation on the 1st January, 1903. Under this Proclamation Local Boards of Health were enabled to be established.

9. The revenue of the Board derived from rates levied, rents paid, &c., is payable to the Treasurer of the Board, but the High Commissioner has power at any time to direct that any surplus revenue shall form part of the revenue of the Protectorate.

10. By Section 50 of Rule No. 7 of 1902, made under the Mining Regulation Proclamation, No. 18 of 1902, a fee of £1 per annum for every square mile or part thereof of lands named in the licence is payable by the holder of an exclusive licence; £5 for every assignment or transfer of an exclusive licence; £5 by every holder of a general licence, and other fees.

11. Patients' fees ranging from one shilling to ten shillings per day are payable under Section 20 of Rule No. 11 of 1903, made under the Hospital and Dispensaries Proclamation, No. 7 of 1903.

EXPENDITURE.

12. The expenditure for the year (April, 1902, to March, 1903) under review as compared with the two previous years is shown in the following table:—

Head of Expenditure	Expenditure 1900-1901.	Expenditure 1901-1902.	Expenditure 1902-1903.	Increase.	Decrease.	Cause of Increase or Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Pensions and gratuities	810 0 0	930 12 6	1,162 10 8	231 18 2	—	Addition to Pension List.
High Commissioner	4 675 0 4	4,744 3 0	4,450 8 7	—	293 14 5	High Commissioner retired in September.
Secretary's Department	1,170 3 11	2,276 5 2	3,579 6 8	1,303 1 6	—	Increase of staff.
Political and Administrative ..	23,430 11 7	25,005 0 0	29,248 4 1	4,243 4 1	—	Increased area administered.
Judicial	2,950 0 7	3,033 18 9	2,965 11 9	—	68 7 0	Legal previously under Judicial. Appointment of Police Magistrate.
Legal		717 10 8	1,158 2 0	410 11 4	—	
Survey Department	4 16 9	1,718 5 1	2,069 16 1	351 11 0	—	Instruments. Extra carriers.
Treasury Department	2,977 15 10	3,275 8 5	4,137 4 0	861 15 7	—	Increase of staff.
Customs Department	7,362 3 6	8,299 1 4	9,019 1 7	720 0 3	—	Do. do.
Post Office..	3,675 11 8	3,668 18 2	4,534 0 3	865 2 1	—	Do. do.
Telegraphs	—	—	—	—	—	
Printing Department	1,612 2 4	1,964 4 5	2 429 18 4	465 13 11	—	Extra materials.
Audit Department	619 10 0	740 13 10	1.165 3 1	424 9 3	—	Additional Assistant Local Auditor.
West African Frontier Force ..	39,710 17 9	53,043 10 6	69,508 3 7	16,464 7 1	—	Outstanding salaries on 31st March, 1902. Expenses of recruiting, &c.
Marine Department	67,477 16 11	46,234 1 10	75,406 9 2	29,172 7 4	—	Purchase of "Valiant," &c.
Prisons Department	8,894 3 1	10,575 10 3	6,931 17 8	—	3,643 12 7	Previously included Police Expenditure.
Civil Police	—	—	5,171 19 8	5,171 19 0	—	Included under Prisons in 1902.
Forestry and Botanical	2,565 11 10	2,757 7 9	3.646 1 11	888 14 2	—	Appointment of a Conservator.
Medical Department	11,967 3 4	13,278 4 7	16.968 18 1	3,690 13 6	—	Pay of Officers attached to Aro Expedition, &c.
Sanitary Department	1,424 5 7	1,174 16 7	1,383 11 5	208 14 10	—	Expenditure on Reservations.
Transport	10,550 17 8	15,607 7 0	19,439 17 3	3,832 10 3	—	Passages of Officers, increased staff.
Aborigines	11,345 6 11	9,203 18 3	11,012 0 6	1.808 2 3	—	Increased area administered.
Education Department	—	1,070 6 5	1,918 14 1	848 7 8	—	Increase of staff.
Miscellaneous	55,562 17 3	37,205 8 9	58,200 5 5	20,994 16 8	—	Expeditionary works.
Contribution to Northern Nigeria	—	33,785 10 0	34,214 10 0	429 0 0	—	Unpaid portion of contribution in 1902 (£214 10s.).
Public Works Department	4,881 17 3	5,743 12 1	8,244 15 11	2,501 3 10	—	Increase of staff.
,, Recurrent	7,822 6 7	5,963 16 3	8,018 1 11	2,054 5 8	—	Repairs.
,, Extraordinary ..	34,702 7 5	39,348 18 9	69,308 17 3	29,959 18 6	—	Removal of Barracks.
Total	306,192 18 1	331,396 16 4	455,293 10 11	127,902 8 7	4,005 14 0	

13. There was a net increase of expenditure, as compared with that of the previous year, of £123,896 14*s.* 7*d.* With one exception, it will be seen that an increased expenditure occurred under each head as compared with the previous financial year. The increase (£4,243) under "Political and Administrative" is due to the necessary increase of staff for the year, *vide* "Administration."

14. The increase £29,172 in the expenditure of the Marine Department is accounted for by an increase in staff, European and Native, cost of coal, and the purchase of the sternwheeler "Valiant" for Niger Transport.*

15. During the year an increase of Native Staff was made in the principal departments at headquarters; this having been found necessary to cope with the increase of work and to enable the proper amount of effective work to be done daily within reasonable hours. This, to a large extent, accounts for the increases under the heads "Treasury," "Customs," and "Secretary."

16. The head "Legal" was, up to 1900-1, included in "Judicial."

17. In 1901-2 the head "Prisons" included the expenditure under "Police." The increase of expenditure (£888) under "Forestry and Botanical" is accounted for by the appointment of a Conservator of Forests. The increase (£3,690) under "Medical" was owing to the delay in payment of salaries to Medical Officers employed upon Expeditionary Works; as also to expenditure under new sub-heads for "Outfit allowances to medical officers" and "Expenses of doctors at School of Tropical Medicine." Passages of officers are debited to "Transport," and to an increase of staff is largely due the corresponding increase in expenditure (£3,832). All expenses necessarily incurred in opening up new country, establishing new markets, and making customary gifts to native chiefs is charged to the head "Aborigines," and the increased expenditure (£1,808) is due to the large areas brought under effective control during the year.

18. In the report on the Blue Book for 1902, in reference to the surplus of revenue over expenditure of £30,419, it was observed that this surplus would have been largely reduced had it been possible to bring to account all expenses incurred during that financial year by the military operations then taking place in the Aro country. The expenses of Expeditionary Works are charged under "Miscellaneous" and the increased expenditure (£20,994) was principally incurred in connection with the Aro Expedition. The cost of establishing new districts, a natural sequence to any expedition of importance, was also an important item in the expenditure under this head.

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* Revenue derived from Niger Transport for 1903 was £432.

19. The respective total increases under "Personal Emoluments" and "Other Charges" for the three years mentioned are given in the following table:—

Year.	Expenditure on Personal Emoluments.	Expenditure on other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1900–1901	116,548	189,644	306,192
1901–1902	136,534	194,861	331,396
1902–1903	177,554	277,738	455,293

20. The following statement shows the totals of revenue and expenditure for the past five years:—

Financial Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1897–1898 ...	153,181	121,900
1898–1899 ...	169,567	146,751
1899–1900 ...	164,168	176,140
1900–1901 ...	380,694	306,192
1901–1902 ...	361,815	331,396

21. The following table gives the expenditure for the calendar year 1st January-31st December, 1903.

Expenditure, 1903.

Calendar Year.

Head.	Quarter 1st January–31st March.			9 months 1st April–31st December.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Pensions and gratuities ...	148	0	8	2,690	6	8*	2,838	7	4
High Commissioner ...	1,325	16	1	3,087	5	7	4,413	1	8
Secretary	1,014	12	7	2,726	11	10	3,741	4	5
Political and Administrative.	8,079	1	9	24,196	10	5	32,275	12	2
Judicial	868	3	0	2,540	12	9	3,408	15	9
Legal and Registration ...	265	10	9	843	7	9	1,108	18	6
Survey	584	2	10	1,580	14	8	2,164	17	6

* These payments are uncertain.

Expenditure, 1903—cont.

Head.	Quarter 1st January–31st March.			9 months 1st April–31st December.			Total.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Treasury	1,226	2	8	3,466	14	9	4,692	17	5
Forestry and Botanical ...	1,346	19	2	3,562	1	4	4,909	0	6
Medical	4,718	14	2	13,769	13	7	18,488	7	9
Sanitary	415	5	3	1,441	12	6	1,856	17	9
Transport	4,729	12	5	15,131	13	2†	19,861	5	7
Aborigines	4,216	16	1	8,761	6	2	12,978	2	3
Education	867	3	0	1,453	2	4	2,320	5	4
Miscellaneous	14,676	16	5	20,562	16	6‡	35,239	12	11
Contribution to Northern Nigeria.	850	0	0	30,000	0	0	30,850	0	0
Public Works Department	2,115	3	9	7,390	19	10	9,506	3	7
Public Works Recurrent ...	1,949	16	3	36,708	10	11§	38,658	7	2
Public Works Extraordinary.	30,621	11	2	33,678	1	0	64,299	12	2
Customs	2,224	15	4	7,377	13	2	9,602	8	6
Postal and Telegraphs ...	1,430	12	10	3,470	19	0	4,901	11	10
Printing Department ...	538	6	3	2,278	14	4	2,817	0	7
Audit...	299	11	8	904	5	0	1,203	16	8
Force (W.A.F.F.)	19,071	10	3	53,425	15	0	72,497	5	3
Marine	18,648	16	6	42,642	6	6	61,291	3	0
Prisons	3,077	6	0	7,076	4	1	10,153	10	1
Civil Police	1,424	4	7	5,912	5	8	7,336	10	3
Totals ...	126,734	11	5	336,680	4	6	463,414	15	11

† Increased expenditure incurred during 1903 under "Passages of Officers" and "Travelling" caused by additional staff and travelling on opening up new territory.

‡ Considerable increased expenditure under this head for 1903 caused by increased staff and the opening up of territory. The following sub heads were affected :—

Rations for Native staff. Commission to Crown Agents.
Clothing ditto. Insurance on stores.
Stationery.

Rebates of charges were also made to Northern Nigeria and Niger Company of nearly £1,700, under the Secretary of State's authority.

§ The large expenditure shewn here is apparent only, as transfers to specific works had to be made before the end of the financial year from "Materials and Stores" &c. (under the new stores regulations for accounting), on receipt of the particulars from the Director of Public Works.

Assets and Liabilities.

22. In Appendix A will be found a statement of assets and liabilities on the 31st March, 1903.

23. The balance of assets over liabilities amounted to £152,192. Disregarding the deposits due by, and the advances

due to, the Protectorate, the amounts of which practically balance each other, the excess asset balance is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
(*a.*) Cash in Chests	30,832	5	2
(*b.*) „ „ transit	23,035	11	4
*(*c.*) Surplus Funds invested by Crown Agents	98,000	0	0
(*d.*) Investments for Specific Purposes	900	0	0
	£152,767	16	6
Deduct difference between Advances and Deposits (and drafts) including (*d.*)	575	2	11
	£152,192	13	7

* Invested during the year.

24. Under Rule 46 of the Colonial Audit Regulations (Revised April, 1903) the statement (Appendix A) of assets and liabilities should not show Appropriated Sinking Funds as an asset and they are therefore shown separately hereunder:—

Description and Amounts of Appropriated Sinking Funds Invested on the 31st March, 1903.

Designation.	Amount of Stock, &c.			Cost.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Steam yacht "Ivy" Depreciation ...	11,596	15	8	11,518	19	4
„ „ Repairs... ...	3,234	10	7	3,073	10	1
Coin Repatriation	515	5	6	515	5	6
Total...	15,346	11	9	15,107	14	11

Currency.

25. Specie to the amount of £228,079 was imported, nearly all for Northern Nigeria, during the year 1903. The export for the period (amounting to £159) was inappreciable. The figures for the last three years are given in the import and export tables in this report. The above amounts are referred to here as showing the very enlarged demand now existing for silver coinage. The demand for cash is steadily increasing where European factories exist. The import of specie into Northern Nigeria is probably to meet Government payments there, the coins returning to Southern Nigeria to meet payments falling due for Customs duties. It is improbable that any large amount is absorbed in that Protectorate.

26. The cotton industry, and the payment of labourers employed in cash, will, if successful, incidentally contribute to the desired disappearance of the barter system. A small importation of the Imperial bronze coinage was tried during the

year, the trading community being asked to assist in its distribution, and though it is too soon as yet to speak definitely of results there is no indication at present of any dislike on the part of the natives to it. A farthing is not a small enough coin for ordinary native transactions, but it has an advantage which the native may be taught to appreciate. When travelling from one market to another he can carry less local, and bulky, currency, once he learns to give change for it. The "factories" having "cash" stores, by "making" prices in copper and bronze, can largely assist in the necessary education of the natives in this respect. Granted that it is a matter of time there does not appear to be, so far as this Protectorate is concerned, any real obstacle to the increasing spread of the custom of estimating all values in cash.

27. There is a tendency in many quarters among the principal native chiefs to export produce direct through native agents to firms in England. If this practice spreads to any extent it must have the effect of raising the question, among those interested, as to whether the present "double-profit" barter system can be continued with advantage.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND SHIPPING.

Imports and Exports.

23. In the report for 1902, a comparative statement of imports for 1901-2 was given. In a similar table is set out below the value of the imports for 1903 compared with the value of the imports for 1902.

	1902 *	1903.
	£	£
Free Imports (Commercial) Goods	137,195†	212,278
" Specie		26,079
" (Government of Northern and Southern Nigeria) Goods.	178,239†	112,473
Free Imports (Government of Northern and Southern Nigeria) Specie.		202,000
Specific Imports (Commercial)	318,112	301,692
" " (by the two Governments) ...	4,975	14,344
Ad valorem Imports (Commercial)	514,651	564,440
" " (by the two Governments) ...	93,307	59,438
Total Imports on which duties were paid	832,763	866,132
Total Imports	1,246,481	1,492,747‡

* The figures for 1902 have been slightly amended, Departmental errors having been detected.

† Inclusive of specie amounting together to £164,088. In 1902 specie was not separated from the "Free" Imports, Commercial and Government.

‡ Inclusive of Freight, Packages, &c., £104 794.

29. It will be seen by the above that there is an increase in the value of the total imports for 1903 as compared with 1902 of £246,266; while there is also an increase of £33,369 in the value of the dutiable imports for the same period. This increase is due entirely to the increase in the value of imports subject to *ad valorem* duty.

30. The value of dutiable specific imports, though greater than that of 1901 by £36,898, shows a decrease as compared with 1902 of £16,420. Later returns for the current year show that this is due to a fluctuation only, caused, probably, by importations being made too late to be included in the calendar year 1903. Moreover, stocks, abnormal in 1902, had not been exhausted; the importation of gun-powder, for example, was less than half of that of the previous year: the figures being 226,790 lbs. for 1903 as compared with 591,990 lbs. for 1902.

Direction of Trade.

31. The imports from the United Kingdom, the Colonies, and Foreign countries respectively are given in the following table:—

1901.

Countries.	Imports.	Specie	Imports less Specie.
	£	£	£
From United Kingdom ...	1,072,962	205,222	867,740
„ Colonies	4,708	2,700	2,008
„ Foreign Countries ...	219,445	1,900°	217,545
Totals... ...	1,297,115	209,822	1,087,293

1902.

Countries.	Imports.	Specie.	Imports less Specie.
	£	£	£
From United Kingdom ...	1,004,958	157,775	847,183
„ Colonies	3,032	900	2,132
„ Foreign Countries ...	238,490	5,413†	233,077
Totals... ...	1,246,480	164,088	1,082,392

° Germany. † Germany £2,207, Kotonou £2,800, Kamerun £406.

1903.

Countries.	Imports.	Specie.	Imports less Specie.
	£	£	£
From United Kingdom ...	1,228,959	216,120	1,012,839
„ Colonies	14,939	10,227	4,712
„ Foreign Countries ...	248,850	1,732°	247,118
Totals... ...	1,492,748	228,079	1,264,669

° Germany £1,000, Kamerun £732.

32. There is a noticeable increase in the amount of specie imported; this was principally imported by the Government of Northern Nigeria.

33. The foregoing statement shows an increase in the importations from the United Kingdom and an increase in the imports from Foreign countries, and the following statement shows how the increase is apportioned between the several countries therein mentioned:—

Imports from (less Specie).

Countries.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£
African Ports	7,488	8,344	4,258
America, United States ...	4,663	3,986	4,903
Belgium	—	—	—
France	2,531	—	2
Germany	102,108	111,798	122,284
Holland	97,565	105,239	111,788
Portuguese (Col.)... ...	163	106	199
Spanish (Col.)	3,027	3,604	3,684
Total	217,545	233,077	247,118

34. In Appendix B will be found a comparative statement of the principal articles of import for the year under review, with the corresponding figures for the two previous years.

35. Among the more important increases noticeable therein are:—Building materials, £26,036; cotton goods, £51,458; wearing apparel, £4,730; uniforms and accoutrements, £5,633; and guns (other than Dane), £4,288.

36. The increases in the two last named are due to Government requirements. To the building of many new "factories" and Government buildings in the Protectorate is due the large increase in the importation of building materials. The increase in these imports from the United Kingdom amounted to £26,126

which, alone, slightly exceeds the total increase under this head.

37. The considerable increase in cotton goods is also the more satisfactory in that they nearly all come from the United Kingdom. These particular figures should however not be compared with 1902 as in that year importers contented themselves with selling off old stock. This was explained in the report for that year and is further supported by a decrease in the imports of these goods from Germany in 1903, which in 1902 reached a value of £11,571. Comparing the value with the figures for 1900, viz.: £271,477, the highest hitherto reached, it will be seen that this has been exceeded by £14,294.

38. The increased demand for wearing apparel should prove progressive and bear some ratio to the gradual spread of education in the Protectorate. When the first idea of a native ceases to be the preparation of the next meal, when not the consumption of the one before him, it takes the shape of adornment of the person; "reach-me-downs" from Europe are the inevitable goal of an ambition that may begin with a silk hat.

39. Of the importations which show a decrease the following are to be noted:—Coal, £8,433; hardware and cutlery, £10,401; woollen goods, £1,059; gun-powder, £5,264; spirits (gin and Geneva), £5,711; and tobacco (unmanufactured), £7,300.

40. In 1902 the Admiralty imported coal but did not do so in 1903. The decrease is further explained by the larger importations by Northern Nigeria in the former year. The decrease in hardware and cutlery is due to the fact that the Governments of Northern and Southern Nigeria imported machinery largely in 1902. This decrease is in hardware imported from the United Kingdom, the imports from which are £13,176 less in value than in 1902, while the imports from Germany for the same period show an increase of £2,484 in value.

41. The decrease in woollen goods is not shared in by Germany, that country having slightly increased her imports of these articles. It is therefore attributable to the non-exhaustion of previous stock.

42. The decrease in gunpowder has already been commented on; the decrease in spirits is merely a fluctuation.

43. The decrease in unmanufactured tobacco is apparently also a fluctuation: the importation of this article increased at Old Calabar, Brass, and Akassa, and decreased at all other stations. The amount is probably normal.

44. The duties collected for the year as compared with 1902 were as follows:—

—	1902.	1903.
	£	£
Specific	355,318	343,846
Ad valorem	51,286	56,299
Total	406,604	400,145

45. The total value of the imports for 1903 exceeded the total value of the imports for 1902, but the duty collected for the year 1903 is less than in 1902 by £6,549. This naturally follows on the decrease in the importation of goods liable to "specific" duty.

46. The total value of goods imported into the Protectorate for transit into Kamerun was £9,597 (out of which £878 was of free value) as against £13,230 in 1902, a decrease of £3,633. The decrease is accounted for by cargoes having been sent by road from Rio Del Rey instead of *viâ* Cross River. During 1902 this road was not used. The duty levied on these imports was £1,954 6*s*. 2*d*., and out of this a refund* was made as provided by the tariff.

Exports.

47. The following tables show the direction of the export trade for the years mentioned:—

1901.

Countries.	Exports.	Specie.	Exports less Specie.
	£	£	£
To United Kingdom ...	798,693	25,601	773,092
„ Colonies	7,488	7,360	128
„ Foreign Countries ...	447,525	—	447,525
Totals	1,253,706	32,961	1,220,745

1902.

Countries.	Exports.	Specie.	Exports less Specie.
	£	£	£
To United Kingdom ...	820,057	2,000	818,057
„ Colonies	146	—	146
„ Foreign Countries ...	434,492	—	434,492
Totals	1,254,696	2,000	1,252,696

* Total Customs refund £1,019 5*s*. 9*d*., out of which £937 7*s*. 0*d*. was in respect of transit goods to Kamerun.

1903.

Countries.	Exports.	Specie.	Exports less Specie.
	£	£	£
To United Kingdom ...	922,658	—	922,658
„ Colonies	263	150	113
„ Foreign Countries ...	509,063	9	509,054
Totals	1 431,984	159	1,431,825

48. The exports (less specie) exceeded the imports in value by £167,156.

49. The following table shows the direction of trade to countries other than the United Kingdom during the years mentioned therein, and it will be noticed that the export trade (less specie) to England (*see* foregoing statement) increased in 1903 by £104,601 and to Germany by £52,270; France, £13,546; Holland, £5,863. The percentage of increase to Foreign countries was about 1 per cent. more than in 1902 and was practically monopolised by Germany.

Countries.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£
African Ports	408	3,126	1,826
America, United States ...	—	—	4,180
Belgium	—	—	—
France	43,505	22,556	36,103
Holland	10,817	4,173	10,035
Germany	392,795	404,637	456,908
Portuguese (Col.)... ...	—	—	—
Spanish (Col.)	-	—	2
Total	447,525	434,492	509,054

50. In Appendix C is given a comparative statement for the last three years of the export trade.

51. It will be noticed that the export of timber (native lumber) has largely increased. The increase in palm kernels directly affects Germany, most of this particular produce going direct to that country. Palm oil shows an increase in the value exported but a decrease in the gallonage; this somewhat curious condition is attributable to competition and a rise in price in home markets, better prices prevailing locally in consequence. The native's wants are at present so few that there is nothing to stimulate him to more active operations should he find that he can obtain the same price for a smaller

quantity; only enough oil being collected to meet immediate necessities.

52. There is a noticeable revival in the export of rubber. Great efforts have been made by officers of the Forestry Department to foster and develop this trade. The demands for rubber are so constantly increasing and the sources of supply are so limited that it is of the highest importance that this trade should be encouraged in every way possible. As the country becomes opened up, the decrease in the export of ivory is a natural one and, moreover, a large portion of this trade finds an outlet through neighbouring ports.

53. The reason of the decrease in the export of gum copal* is not apparent unless it is that the producer has transferred his attention to other products; the decrease would appear to be somewhat large for an ordinary fluctuation.

54. The table given below shows the comparative export trade with the principal countries and for the period named:—

Countries.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom	798,693	820,057	922,657
Germany	392,795	404,637	456,907
France	43,505	22,556	36,103
Holland	10,817	4,171	10,034
Other Countries	7,896	3,275	6,283
Total	1,253,706	1,254,696	1,431,984

55. Sailing vessels arrive occasionally from America with a consignment of kerosene oil and return with a cargo of palm oil. In "Other Countries" for 1903 one shipment occurred, to America, to the value of £4,179.

56. Of the total export trade 64·4 per cent. went to the United Kingdom; 31·9 per cent. to Germany; 2·5 per cent. to France; and 1·2 per cent. to "Other Countries."

57. In Appendix D the principal articles on which foreign countries are increasing their exports are set out for reference.

58. The total value of the exports from Kamerun, passing through the Protectorate, in 1902 was £1,912, while for the year under review the value was £2,628. The table given below shows the articles detailed. The figures are for the

* Inquiry elicits no explanation of the decrease. When it was found that the output was decreasing the price was raised but without preventing the falling off in the supply of this commodity.

same articles in each case, and the only decrease shown is on native curios which in 1902 amounted to £92. The export of ebony nearly doubled itself, the figure for the previous year being £720, while the four other articles show small increases.

Return Shewing Quantity and Value of Exports from the German Territories of Kamerun, passing through Cross River for the Year 1903.

Articles.	Quantity.	Value.
		£ s. d.
Ebony	365 tons	1,192 1 4
Ivory	924 lbs.	172 17 1
Palm kernels	52 tons	187 7 0
Palm oil	303 Imp. gallons ...	12 15 9
Rubber	29,428 lbs.	990 9 6
Native curios	14 packages ...	72 11 10

59. The amount of import duty collected from imports consigned to Northern Nigeria amounted to £12,945 in 1902, as compared with £11,266 in 1901, and £9,359 in 1900. Statistics for imports and exports to and from Northern Nigeria for the year 1903 cannot be given as the Niger Company, in whose hands most of the trade lies, have refused to supply information. It is not the case, as stated in the report for 1902, that the departmental returns provide these figures. They are not kept in detail by the Customs Department. It will be necessary to provide by legislation for the collection of statistics of Northern Nigeria imports and exports.

60. The following tables show the extent to which imports and exports of specie and Government imports (exports are inappreciable) swell the total returns for the year:—

Imports.

Year.	Total Value.	Total.	
		Less Specie.	Less Government Imports and Government Specie.
	£	£	£
1903	1,492,748	1,264,669	*902,492

* Government imports, goods £388,256.

Exports.

Year.	Total Value.	Total.	
		Less Specie.	Less Government Exports and Government Specie.
1903	£ 1,431,984	£ 1,431,825	£ *1,431,825

* Government exports are inappreciable.

AGRICULTURE.

61. Fresh rules were passed during the year under "The Forestry Proclamation, 1901" (Rule No. 14 of 1903).

62. By this rule applications for the consent of the High Commissioner to a timber concession are required to be made through the Conservator of Forests. The rule provides for provisional consent of the High Commissioner which may be given subject, or otherwise, to the deed containing clauses modifying or supplementing the Timber Rules.

63. With every year that passes, it becomes increasingly important that new exports, indicating new areas of work and development, should make an appearance on the export lists of the Protectorate. That "Palm Oil" and "Palm Kernels" will ever cease to be the dominant products is more than unlikely; but these products demand nothing from the native in the way of labour that the veriest bushman cannot carry out. Portions of this Protectorate must be gradually turned over—and education may succeed, where persuasion fails—to the production of other commodities. It is not in the nature of the average West African to lay out capital for which there is no immediate return. He can understand the yam growing at his door; he can understand the cask of oil to be filled before his "boys" can return with the required cloth, pipe or frock-coat, but he will not sow for his son to reap; nor will a village work, of its own initiative, for the benefit of the next generation that is to occupy it. It is this difficulty that has rendered so great the task of encouraging the rubber industry. It is for this reason that cocoa and coffee have never been properly taken up by the natives themselves.

64. Forestry officers have extended, very considerably, the areas of rubber plantations, and after some years of hard work some of the more intelligent chiefs have been induced to start operations on their own account—a most hopeful sign. During

the year it was found that the so-called "root rubber" was not procured from the "roots" of *Funtumia Elastica*. It is obtained from a Landolphia Vine, which possesses the habit of sending up root suckers which greatly increase its powers of resistance to root tapping; the natives, in fact, are said to find difficulty in eradicating this plant from their farms.

65. A few years ago the timber trade was non-existent. The quantity exported in 1903 was 460,446 superficial feet at a value of £32,027. This quantity is nearly treble of that exported in the previous year. This however is not as satisfactory as would appear. The Conservator of Forests found that the minimum felling girth allowed was too small, the age gradations not being well represented. It was consequently considered necessary to increase the minimum felling girth to 12 feet and to extend the areas of concessions and the periods for which they are granted. With reference to this danger of deforestisation the Conservator of Forests makes the following remarks which are well worth attention:—

> "The timber supply of the world is annually diminishing at a very rapid pace, so much so that even the vast forests of India and Burma are now barely able to supply the local demands of their own population. The unrestricted felling of the woods on the West Coast by the natives for their temporary farms, the most pernicious form of cultivation known, and the cutting by Europeans of the better timber trees, quite regardless of the yield capacity of the forests, are among the matters calling for an immediate change in the forest policy of the West African Colonies. The damage done by the practices referred to above is incalculable and under the most favourable conditions will require centuries to repair, if they can ever be repaired in a tropical country like this where, among other things, the presence on its borders of a vast sandy desert is a standing menace to all vegetable growth. It is therefore of the utmost importance that all the West African Colonies should be placed under one uniform scheme of approved forest administration as soon as possible."

66. The efforts of the Protectorate in cotton growing are still in the experimental stage. So far as opinion can be formed by results up to date it is agreed that there is no reason why the soil should not prove suitable for cotton growing. One of the first requirements, that the ground chosen should be near a waterway and that it should not be submerged, creates no difficulty as sites within easy reach of water transport and above flood level are plentiful.

67. The difficulty that occurs locally is the labour question. There is plenty of it but it is unskilled and, moreover, "impossible" without supervision. The preparation of land for cotton is a totally different matter to preparing a site for a

native farm. The latter is the only "preparation" the native understands. Expert opinion is in favour of the ploughing and fertilizing being carried out for the native, leaving to the latter only the weeding and picking. Eventually, no doubt, if success is met with, it may be found possible to entrust the cultivation entirely to native chiefs.

Shipping.

68. In Appendix E will be found a statement of the number and tonnage of both sailing and steam ships compared for the three years mentioned.

69. Twelve more British vessels, with cargoes, entered the Protectorate from the United Kingdom than in 1901 with an increased tonnage of 44,088 tons, while compared with 1902, an increase of seven vessels and 21,488 tons is shewn. This increase in tonnage (shewing the commercial advantage of vessels of a large capacity) is still more clearly shewn by noting the averages as under:—

Average.		
1901.	1902.	1903.
Tons. 1,800	Tons. 1,900	Tons. 2,000

Locating the increase by elimination it is found that the average tonnage of British vessels that entered from Germany did not shew such marked increase, viz.:—

Average.		
1901.	1902.	1903.
Tons. 1,436	Tons. 1,532	Tons. 1,547

70. Of the 298 British vessels (in cargo and ballast) which entered the Protectorate in 1903 (260 in 1902, and 226 in 1901) the tonnage was as under:—

1901.	1902.	1903.
Tons. 250,197	Tons. 304,236	Tons. 374,866

while of the 78 foreign steam vessels which entered for the same period (28 in 1901 and 46 in 1902) the tonnage shews—

1901.	1902.	1903.
Tons. 34,789	Tons. 57,292	Tons. 76,014

71. The tonnage of British shipping for 1903 shews an increase of 23·2 per cent. over that of 1902, and 49·8 per cent. over that of 1901. The increase in 1902, over 1901, was 21·6 per cent.

72. The tonnage of foreign shipping for the same period shews an increase of 32·7 per cent. over 1902, and of 118·5 per cent. over 1901; the increase in 1902, over 1901, being 64·7 per cent.

73. The following table shews the total tonnage and distribution of shipping:—

—	1901.	1902.	1903.
Total tonnage	284,986	361,528	450,880

Flag.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
British	88	84	83
Foreign	12	16	17

74. It is apparent by the foregoing figures that every effort is being made by foreign shipping to secure an increasing share in the trade of the Protectorate; the principal competitor being Germany. 91 per cent. of the foreign ships that entered during the year were of that nationality.

75. A point also to be noticed in this connection is the increasing number of foreign vessels that entered Protectorate ports in ballast. In the year 1901 no foreign ships entered in ballast (the Wœrmann-Line was not then running) as against 23 British ships; in 1902, seven entered as against 16 British ships; while in 1903, 26 foreign ships entered as against 26 British ships, of which 23 were Lagos branch boats. Doubtless many of such ships failed to pick up cargoes, but by the fact that it is considered worth sending in ships on the chance of picking up a cargo, it may be assumed that it is sometimes of advantage and may eventually repay in the end.

76. The following table shows the proportion of vessels employed in the Branch Boat Service as between Lagos and Forcados, which entered and cleared in 1903, compared with the two previous years:—

—	British Steamers.			Foreign Steamers.			Total.		
	1901.	1902.	1903.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1901.	1902.	1903.
Entered with cargoes	203	244	272	28	39	52	231	283	324
Lagos Branch Boats entered with cargoes	81	110	108	—	—	1	81	110	109
Entered in ballast	23	16	26	—	7	26	23	16	52
Lagos Branch Boats entered in ballast	12	14	23	—	—	24	12	14	47
Total entered	226	260	298	28	46	78	254	306	376
Total Lagos Branch Boats	93	124	131	—	—	25	93	124	156
Cleared with cargoes	192	205	244	30	41	76	222	246	320
Lagos Branch Boats cleared with cargoes	70	79	80	—	—	26	70	79	106
Cleared in ballast	26	48	48	—	4	1	26	52	49
Lagos Branch Boats cleared in ballast	19	42	47	—	—	—	19	42	47
Total cleared	218	253	292	30	45	77	248	298	369
Total Lagos Branch Boats	89	121	127	—	—	26	89	121	153

As explained in the report for 1902, Lagos branch boats are small steamers, which ply between Forcados and Lagos for the purpose of transhipping Lagos cargo. The statistics of imports and exports do not include such cargo.

LEGISLATION, 1903.

77. Many of the laws made in 1903 were for the purpose of amending, where it had been found necessary, those made in the early days of the Protectorate.

78. "The Public Lands Acquisition Proclamation" (No. 5) enables the High Commissioner to acquire lands required for public purposes and provides that fair compensation be given to the owners.

79. By "The Hospitals and Dispensaries Proclamation" (No. 7), and Rule No. 11 of 1903 made under that law, provision is made for the establishment and management of hospitals and dispensaries within the Protectorate. Fees are charged to those who are in a position to pay, but paupers are entitled to treatment gratis.

80. "The Births and Deaths Proclamation, 1901," was found by experience to be practically inoperative and the returns thereunder to be useless for statistical purposes. It has now been replaced by "The Births and Deaths Proclamation, 1903" (No. 8). This proclamation applies—

(1) To all births and deaths occurring amongst aliens in the Protectorate, and

(2) To all births and deaths occurring in any native community.

81. Several communities have already adopted the proclamation. It is expected that many more will do so in time. The High Commissioner is empowered to appoint the chief of any community as a native registrar of the births and deaths occurring in his community, and such native registrar brings his book monthly to the District Commissioner, who makes a transcript of the entries therein, which is forwarded to the Registrar-General. The District Commissioner himself keeps a register of the births and deaths occurring among aliens in his district. The Government endeavour to encourage the natives to record the births of their children by granting to every child whose birth is registered, and the mother of such child, free medical attendance and medicine at the Government dispensary of the district for two years from the date of the birth.

82. Much pain and suffering, and, in many cases, deaths, are caused by the superstitions which exist among the people of the Protectorate. "The Ordeal, Witchcraft and Juju Proclamation" (No. 13) has been passed in order to try to put an end to this. The proclamation prohibits trials by ordeal, and renders the person presiding at such a trial liable to imprisonment up to ten years, and, if any person dies as a result of such trial, liable to be tried for murder. Penalties are also imposed upon

those convicted of assisting at a trial by ordeal or of purporting to practice, or accusing others of practising, witchcraft.

83. "The Newspaper Proclamation" (No. 26) provides for the registration of newspapers published in the Protectorate and imposes a penalty for wilful mis-statements of facts relating to matters of public interest.

84. By "The Supreme Court Divorce Jurisdiction Proclamation" (No. 18) jurisdiction in divorce proceedings is applied to aliens and to natives who have been married under "The Marriage Proclamation, 1900."

85. The Native Councils have in several cases exercised the power, subject to the approval of the High Commissioner, conferred on them by "The Native Courts Proclamation, 1901," of making rules embodying native law or for promoting trade or providing for the good government of the district over which each Council has jurisdiction. The general principles under which the High Commissioner grants or withholds his assent to any local laws are to avoid all unnecessary interference with the native customs and habits, to prevent the creation of class privileges, and to persuade the various native communities to include, in the local laws they pass, the provisions which experience in other countries has shown to be necessary and beneficial.

EDUCATION.

86. Under "The Education Proclamation," No. 19 of 1903, which came into operation on the 1st June, 1903, a Board of Education was appointed with power to draw up a code of rules governing education in the Protectorate. The rules were drawn up and embodied in Rule No. 5 of 1903. These rules provided for the general management of all assisted schools, laid down the duties of the managers and school staff, conditions of grants, and provided for annual examinations. In schedules to the rules a syllabus of instruction was drawn up for primary schools and the standards of examination for intermediate and High schools were also fixed.

87. The code will be applied gradually as circumstances permit. While many of the schools are only emerging from the experimental stage a rigid adherence to every rule is naturally impracticable.

88. In 1903, the Education Department was remodelled. A Director of Education with a qualified staff of European and native teachers was appointed. The system of primary leading to intermediate and High school education was organised, and though it is early yet to look for actual results, the work done

during the year was satisfactory. The system of a district primary school under Government supervision was extended. These schools will in future be acknowledged to be—what they actually are—Government Schools, but maintained only so long as the population they serve contributes a certain portion of their cost. Primary schools were opened at Owo, an important centre of trade in the Western division; at Warri, on the Niger; and at Agbede, to the north of Benin City, where a primary school already exists. The method of maintenance is similar in the case of intermediate residential schools and primary schools.

89. The cost of maintenance is defrayed from:—

1. Government grants.
2. Subscriptions from trading firms and local chiefs.
3. School fees.

90. When it is considered that a school is required in any district, the local chiefs are called together and are asked to express their opinions. Invariably, so far, these have been in favour of having a school. They are then informed that they must be prepared to contribute an amount equal to the Government grant offered and must give a site for the school; to both of which propositions they readily assent.* If the school required is to be a primary school they are further called upon to erect a school building and furnish native quarters for the teacher.

91. Local school committees composed of officials, representatives of European trading firms, and native chiefs assume the local management and control the local expenditure. The Director of Education reports that the interest taken in the work by these committees is a considerable factor in the success of a school.

92. The intermediate schools of the Protectorate are at Bonny (Ogugumanga) and at Sapele—the first to be shortly in process of transfer to a new site and new buildings, and the second in course of construction while being temporarily carried on in native buildings. The High School in connection with the Hope Waddell Institution, fully described in the report for the previous year, is at Old Calabar. The higher classes of this school were reported by the Director of Education to have made a satisfactory beginning in the study of the laws of health and elementary hygiene—desirable subjects in the curriculum of every school in the Protectorate.

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* In July and August, 1903, meetings were thus held at Warri and Owo. At both places over £70 was subscribed as an annual contribution. At both places also a site was selected, and the school building erected before the end of the following October.

93. The financial support received from firms having trading interests in the Protectorate together with the efforts made locally, already recorded, must inevitably promote the cause of education in this Protectorate, while the advance made during the year under review augurs well for its future prospects.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.

94. *In-Patients.*—The hospital accommodation at Old Calabar was increased during the year by two beds in the European, and by twenty-two in the Native, Hospital. In the former hospital there were 127 patients admitted for the year, of which two cases resulted in death; and in the latter 911 admitted, of which 65 cases resulted in death.

95. *Out-Patients* (*Europeans*).—The total number of out-patients entered for treatment in the Protectorate in 1903, was 1,246. Six deaths occurred: two from malaria, and four from haemoglobinuric fever. Three cases only remained at the end of the year for treatment.

96. *Out-Patients* (*Natives*).—24,023 cases were treated. 72 deaths occurred, and 224 cases remained under treatment at the end of the year. The greatest number of deaths (17) occurred under diseases of the digestive system, and 14 were due to dysentery. The cases are set out in detail in Appendix F.

97. The number of successful vaccinations (6,189) during the year was slightly less than in 1902 (6,258). The number of cases of small-pox throughout the Protectorate has, in the opinion of the medical authorities, decreased considerably within recent years. The Deputy Principal Medical Officer reports that in many districts the natives themselves are fully alive to the value of, and carry on, an arm to arm vaccination. An interesting experiment in the manufacture of glycinerated calf lymph from local calves was successfully made by Dr. Darker at Sapele in the Western Division, and it is hoped that it will be found possible to manufacture on a large scale and supply all vaccine required locally instead of importing from Europe.

Prisons.

98. The number of persons committed in 1903 for safe custody or to undergo sentence amounted to 4,624. This number is exclusive of committals to native court prisons. There were 4,369 men, 209 women, and 46 juveniles; 34·8 per cent. were imprisoned for safe custody, 64·6 per cent. for purposes of penal

imprisonment; 30 had been committed three times before; 47, twice; 299, once. In the case of the last figure 201 cases occurred at Asaba alone.

99. The offences against discipline for the whole year were only 7·4 per cent. of the total number of convicts.

100. During the first six months of imprisonment a convict receives rice, biscuit, and meat for five days of the week, and native food for the remaining two days. After this period the native food is increased. On completion of two years native food is given on three days of the week, and, after five years, daily.

101. The market wage of a labourer in the Protectorate is 9*d.* a day with rations. If this sum were credited to the prison on the daily work of all male convicts on hard labour, and if "light" labour and female convicts were credited with earning 6*d.* per diem, the total amount thus earned in 1903 would be £10,234. The total expenditure on the prison for the period was £10,153.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Criminal Statistics.

102. During 1903, 2,058 offences were dealt with by the courts, of which number 1,860 were tried by the magistrates. The corresponding figures for 1902 were 1,294 and 1,176 respectively. In the year under review there is an increase of 290 in "offences against the person," of 195 in "offences against property," and (including 231 prosecutions under the law relating to masters and servants) an increase of 279 in "other offences."

103. These figures, though larger than those for the previous year, do not indicate an increase in crime and lawlessness generally; they are the result of the fact that 21 magisterial courts have been in operation, that new areas have been brought within effective control, and old-established districts are bringing within their limits of jurisdiction places in which the majority of disputes have hitherto been decided by ordeal and fetish practices.

104. The larger number of offences has, therefore, been distributed over a more extensive area and among a very much larger population than in 1902.

105. The increase in "offences against the person" is accounted for by the fact that during the year "The Slave Dealing Proclamation" has been put into active operation over the Aro country and other new areas.

106. The increase in offences against property, however, cannot be so explained. These offences are more numerous in Old Calabar and the coast towns. So long as the more accessible portions of the Protectorate continue to prove attractive to thriftless native foreigners and half-educated natives of the Protectorate, who congregate therein under the pretext of seeking employment or finding an asylum, an increase must be expected. Prosecutions for burglary, larceny, etc., in Old Calabar alone increased from 163, in 1902, to 293, in 1903.

107. The offences against Master and Servant Acts were in the majority of instances offences in the nature of family disputes or infringements of the House Rule Proclamation. The protection afforded by the latter is increasingly appealed to as districts extend or new districts are formed.

108. Native courts, 72 of which have been in operation during 1903, have again proved their utility by dealing, on the whole very satisfactorily, with 2,986 offences of a criminal nature and in disposing of over 17,000 civil claims.

VITAL STATISTICS.

109. The distribution of Europeans in the Protectorate at the beginning of the year 1903 was as follows:—

Year.	Males.	Females.	Officials.	Non-Officials.
1903	377	27	125	279

110. The estimated resident European population for the year was 460—an increase of 56 compared with 1902. There were 12 deaths during the year, giving a death-rate of 26·08 per thousand, calculated on the above number. In 1902 there was a death-rate of 27·22 per thousand. With an increase in population in 1903 there is a decrease in the death-rate of 1·14 per thousand.

111. Europeans suffered principally from malaria fever of an irregular remittent type and from disorders of the digestive system.

112. There were 20 cases of blackwater fever, of which five ended fatally, giving a case mortality of 250 per thousand.

113. The year under review proved an exceptionally healthy year. The invalidings (117·39 per thousand) compare favourably with the previous year. The following table gives details:—

COMPARATIVE TABLE of VITAL STATISTICS for the years 1901, 1902, and 1903.

Class.	Number.	Deaths.	Invalided.	Death-rate per 1,000.	Invaliding per 1,000.
1901. Officials... ...	121	4	15	33	123·9
1902. Officials... ...	125	3	31	24	248
1903. Officials... ...	159	2	27	12·57	169·81
1901. Non-officials ...	276	13	32	47·1	115·9
1902. Non-officials ...	279	8	17	28·67	60·93
1903. Non-officials ...	301	10	27	33·22	89·70
Total or mean rate.					
1901	397	17	47	42·82	118·42
1902	404	11	48	27·22	118·81
1903	460	12	54	26·08	117·39

REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

Abstract of Registration (Proclamation No. 16 of 1901).

114. Prior to the 1st October, 1903, there was no law in force making registration of births and deaths incumbent on the inhabitants. Proclamation No. 17 of 1901, "The Births and Deaths Proclamation, 1901," was obsolete. This Proclamation is repealed by "The Births and Deaths Proclamation, 1903," No. 8 of 1903, which came into operation on the 1st October.

115. The provisions of this latter proclamation *were applied only to the alien section of the community* on that date. The provisions of this proclamation only apply to natives of the Protectorate when a Native Council passes a rule to that effect

under "The Native Courts Proclamation, 1901." The Nembe Native Council, in the Brass District, and the Native Councils of Warri and New Calabar are the only ones that have as yet adopted them. Under these circumstances, and in view of the fact that at present no means exist of arriving, even approximately, at the population of the Protectorate, "rates per thousand" are not given, and the statistics are of little value.

116. *Native.*—The number of births registered (34) are fewer than the deaths by 143. Of the births 23 were alien and 11 of native parentage; 30 were of the male sex.

117. Fifty-seven marriages were registered as having taken place in Christian places of worship during the year.

118. The total number of deaths registered was 177, comprising 129 males and 48 females.

119. Deaths in prison numbered 57, of which 50 were from diseases, six from execution, and one from suicide.

CLIMATE.

Meteorological Returns.

120. Meteorological observations were taken at Old Calabar, Opobo, Bonny, Sapele, and Asaba.

121. The rainfall throughout the Protectorate has not been as heavy as in 1902. The mean rainfall for the above mentioned five stations was 104·94 inches. At Old Calabar the highest mean maximum temperature, viz., 90·96, was recorded in April, and in September the lowest minimum temperature (67·10) was registered. The mean temperature for Old Calabar during the year was 81·11.

122. The following table shows the averages for the past five years, and in Appendix G will be found a summary of the meteorological returns for Old Calabar for the year.

Meteorological Return, Old Calabar, showing Average for Five Years.

Year.	Temperature.						Rainfall.		Winds.	
	Solar Maximum.	Minimum on Grass.	Shade Maximum.	Shade Minimum.	Range.	Mean.	Amount in Inches.	Degree of Humidity.	General Direction.	Average Force.
1899–00	—	—	92	70	22	81·30	105·55	80·90	S.W.	—
1900–01	—	—	91·75	70·16	21·59	81·79	115·65	83·32	S.W.	—
1901	—	—	91·8	69·6	22·20	82·35	126·59	81·85	S.W.	—
1902	—	—	91	68·83	22·17	81·3	156·15	83·52	S.W.	—
1903	—	—	85·65	70·64	15·01	81·11	140·85	82·33	S.W.	—
Average, 1899–1903 ...	—	—	90·44	69·84	20·60	81·57	128·96	82·38	—	—

123. The following is a meteorological table for Old Calabar, showing also the monthly sickness rate per cent. of the European population:—

Month.	Rainfall.	Temperature—Fahrenheit.	Relative Humidity.	Sickness—rate per cent.
January	1·47	80	78·5	27
February ...	3·53	82	73·5	38
March	0·92	85	79	19
April	10·06	84	78	14
May	8·92	82	82·5	26
June	21·48	79	85·5	19·5
July	34·28	77	89·5	32
August	27·32	77	87	37·5
September ...	11·81	78	87·5	23·5
October	10·02	80	83	17·5
November ...	9·62	82	80·5	36
December ...	1·42	82	82	13
Total ...	140·85	—	—	—
Mean ...	11·7	80·6	82·2	25·2

POST, TELEGRAPH, AND SURVEY.

124. The total revenue and expenditure for the years 1901, 1902, and 1903 is shewn below:—

—	1901.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£
Total Postal Revenue	3,577	4,846	4,605
Total cost of Postal Service	3,894°	4,173°	4,901*

° Does not include other sums spent on local transport of mails.

125. The decrease in revenue is due to the abnormal sale of Southern Nigeria Queen's Head issue during the year 1902. If the amounts derived from the sale of stamps to collectors for the years 1902 and 1903 are eliminated from the amount of stamps sold, it will be found that there was an increase of £1,200 stamps sold to the public over that which was sold in the year 1902.

126. The money order transactions for the year show an increase of £6,000 over the year 1902, which was due principally to the native clerks and artisans taking greater advantage of the money order system to remit money to their families on the West African Coast, and the natives and foreign natives of the Protectorate remitting money for merchandize to the United Kingdom to be sent out by parcel post—the latter shewing an increase in value of £1,164 over the year 1902.

127. The number of letters, post-cards, parcels received and despatched from the Protectorate during the years 1901, 1902, and 1903 are as follows:—

Year.	Letters, Post cards, &c.	Parcels.	Total.
1901	494,325	9,314	503,639
1902	553,909	11,118	565,027
1903	742,034	13,718	755,752

128. From the foregoing it will be observed that the postal transactions in every branch show a marked increase for the year 1903.

129. During the year the Protectorate joined the Postal Union and inaugurated the insurance of letters up to a maximum of £60.

TELEGRAPHS.

130. To the Survey Department, created in March, 1901, was assigned the survey and construction of the telegraph lines from Forcados, as far as the boundary line with Lagos (Ogbo), and from Bonny to Old Calabar. Work was completed on the Forcados line in 1901, but communication could not be established owing to incompletion of the Lagos portion of the line, and later, during the wet season of 1903, to sea encroachments on the Forcados portion. Construction parties were sent through at once to remove doubtful portions of the line further inland. Official notice of the Lagos portion of the line being open for messages was made in June, 1904.

The distances are as follows:—

Stations—

*Forcados to †Fish Town (Benin River) ...	63½ miles
Fish Town (Benin River) to *Molume (Lagos boundary)	15 „
Total	78½ miles

131. In November (1903) the Bonny-Old Calabar line was commenced, and was opened for traffic in May, 1904. The line is partly air-line and partly cable.

The following are the distances:—

Stations—

*Old Calabar to Eket (Iwa Ibo)	45½ miles
†Eket to Egwanga (Opobo)	31¼ „
†Egwanga to *Bonny	40¼ „
Total	117 miles

* Terminal Station. † Intermediate Station.

Of the total mileage, the air-line comprises 91½ miles and the cable 25½.

132. The materials used in the construction of these lines are set out in the following extract from a report by the Superintendent of Surveys:—

> The wire used is No. 8 galvanized iron.
>
> The poles are of wrought iron fixed in cast iron sockets, the attachment between them being a screw ring.
>
> The sockets are provided with steady plates, and are driven into the ground with rammers. Small wooden blocks are placed inside the sockets before ramming to prevent breakage of the latter from this operation.
>
> Double shed porcelain insulators are used, and are attached to the poles with iron brackets.
>
> The cable is a seven-strand, steel-armoured, india-rubber cable with brass tape to keep out boring insects. The cable was supplied on drums of half a mile each, the joints being vulcanised.
>
> A post office pattern of lightning arrestor is placed in a cable hut at each connection of air-line with the cable. The line is carried entirely on poles, no trees being used for this purpose.
>
> In general, where cutting has been necessary through forest country a course of such a width, usually about 60 yards, has been cut, as to ensure that no trees are left which could fall on the line.

Survey.

133. In 1901 a new map of the Protectorate was compiled and produced on a scale of $\frac{1}{500,000}$ which included special survey work done on the Aro Expedition and other work not included in the previous map of 1899. A new issue, including district boundaries and all work up to date, was published in 1903, and arrangements have been made by which a further issue of the Protectorate map will be published in 1904, embodying all new sketches or surveys made during the period.

PUBLIC WORKS.

134. The principal works completed during the year 1903 included a new court house and offices (£3,203) for the Supreme Court, and a new house for the nursing staff of the European Hospital at a cost of £2,982.

The Quay Wall was completed this year. This has a frontage of 336⅔ yards with a gridiron on which small vessels can be lifted, and an iron jetty for coaling or cargo purposes. This work was begun in 1900 and finished in 1903 at a total cost of £51,658.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

135. This department has under its control, in addition to the High Commissioner's steam yacht, two stern-wheelers, one gunboat, and twenty-one launches and pinnaces. When it is remembered that from a coast-line of some 300 miles in length for 50 miles inland there is nothing but a network of waterways, the importance of the work to be done is apparent.

136. The main feature of the year's work has been the clearing of waterways. At more or less regular intervals, main rivers, connected with each other by numerous creeks and navigable by ocean-going steamers for distances varying from 15 to 40 miles inland, run out to the sea through mangrove waterways. Thirty to fifty miles above these deltas of the main rivers the mangrove disappears, firm ground takes the place of mud, and creeks become fewer. The necessity that these waterways should, as soon as possible, become cleared for launch and canoe traffic is obvious. With the exception of the Niger and Cross Rivers few are navigable for steam launches for any great distance; and likewise many of the upper creeks are impassable for trade canoes. The work has, therefore, been of a two-fold nature; clearing obstructions to facilitate communications, while charting and discovering new creeks to shorten distances, and opening the upper creeks for trade. Twenty-five rivers and creeks have thus been dealt with during the year.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

137. The total strength of the Southern Nigeria Regiment of the West African Frontier Force on the 31st December, 1903, was 1,421, comprised of 47 officers, 23 British non-commissioned officers, and 1,351 rank and file.

Twelve stations in addition to headquarters are garrisoned by troops.

138. *Expenditure.*—In 1902 the expenditure amounted to £53,043, and in 1903 it rose to £69,508, being an increase of £16,464. This increase was chiefly due to salaries outstanding at the close of the previous financial year, requirements under "Clothing Accoutrements," etc., (£4,822), "Ammunition," etc., (£3,008), "Expenses of Recruiting" (£505).

139. *Expeditions.*—At the beginning of the year a contingent consisting of 310 officers, non-commissioned officers and men, left the Protectorate to join the Field Force operating in Northern Nigeria. Too late to take part in the capture of Kano, this force was chiefly employed in garrison duty.

140. An expedition in the Igara country to the south-east of Idah took place in February. The two-fold object of this expedition was to punish an organised attack on the Commissioner

of the District, and to establish a sense of security among the people who were being terrorised by the actions of an outlaw who had, with a considerable following, dominated the country.

141. In the following month an expedition took place in the Omonoha and Uri countries to the east of the Niger, necessary to bring them under control. In this case also a travelling Commissioner had had a more than unfriendly reception.

142. In September it was found necessary to capture a pirate of some considerable local reputation named Bibi Kala, the natives in the neighbourhood having suffered at his hands. The scene of operations was Wilberforce Island in the Lower Niger —an island interlaced with creeks in all directions. The feature of these operations was the swimming of a lagoon some three to four hundred yards broad by an entire company, each man carrying a carbine and 100 rounds of ball ammunition, and having previously waded nearly a mile, waist deep, in water.

143. In the same month a hostile demonstration was made against the Commissioner of the Eket Sub-District, situated between the Kwa and the Cross Rivers. The officer with difficulty escaped from a plot made to capture him while on his "rounds" in the district. It took a month of severe fighting before all the chiefs implicated had surrendered.

144. In the following month a treacherous attack was made on the Commissioner of the Ifon District to the west of the Niger. This officer was ambushed in a friendly country, but had a sufficient escort with him to enable him to retire, suffering a loss of three killed and four wounded. Punitive measures were at once taken on the towns concerned.

145. During this month an expedition in the Mkpani country had to be undertaken. In spite of the repeated efforts of the Commissioner the natives of this particular portion of the Cross River territory refused all pacific advances and declined to forego an historic right to batten on weaker neighbou[illegible]. The operations were short and decisive. Four days' sharp [illegible]hting brought their submission.

146. The numbers engaged in all the operations in 1903 were as follows:—

37 European officers,

20 European non-commissioned officers,

1354 Native rank and file.

147. Six European officers were wounded, while 104 rank and file were wounded and nine killed. These figures are exclusive of casualties amongst carriers. The percentage of wounded amongst European officers and European non-commissioned officers was 1·5 per cent., whilst 7·6 per cent. Native rank and file were wounded, and 0·66 per cent. killed.

CIVIL POLICE.

148. A Civil Police Force was organised during the year. The establishment consists of one inspector with two assistant inspectors, and 304 rank and file. They are distributed over all stations in the Protectorate, and form garrisons in districts which are sufficiently settled not to require the presence of a military force.

ADMINISTRATION.

Staff.

149. Sir Ralph Moor, K.C.M.G., High Commissioner of this Protectorate, retired from the service in the latter part of this year.

150. At the close of the year arrangements were made at the instance of the Acting High Commissioner, Mr. Probyn, by which the High Commissioner of Southern Nigeria ceases to be His Majesty's Consul at Fernando Po and Kamerun, the duties of the post being transferred to His Majesty's Consul at Loanda. This transfer was effected in January, 1904.

151. The European staff was increased by the addition of four assistant district commissioners, three inspectors of schools, two marine officers, one conservator of forests, and one police magistrate.

152. Five hundred and fifty officers gave security for the performance of their duties under "The Public Officers Guarantee Fund Proclamation" of 1900.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

153. In this Protectorate there are one or two factors which have to be taken into account in any attempt to estimate the progress which has taken place. It cannot be too definitely stated that an Administration which has only existed for 13 years is not one that has exhausted the local problems that have to be solved.

154. The territory under the control of the Protectorate Government has been estimated at some 48,000 square miles, for the most part thickly populated. Of this population, an infinitesimal proportion only makes any claim to the rudiments of education.

155. Speaking broadly the type of native to be dealt with is of a lower class than probably any other in British West Africa. Long before a European set foot in this Protectorate inter-tribal warfare had been waged on a very large scale. No one dominant power effected a conquest; a see-saw victory went on from week to week, and the intervals of peace must have been

few and far between. The effect of this is seen here as elsewhere, in the survival of the fittest. Above the delta belt of mangrove a better type of race, improving as one goes inland, is met with. This natural law operating, the wealthiest and poorest types were driven down into the swamps; there to meet eventually the European trader and to carry his wares to tribes, their old conquerors, whom they would not dare to have otherwise approached.

156. It must be remembered that Southern Nigeria has no large native communities under their own administration, and held together by a fealty of ages or by one "religion." There are no important chiefs in the ordinary sense of importance. If it is required to establish a foothold, say, in an outer portion of a large district, it is necessary to deal with each and every "town" therein. Though it may be that the most important "town" is won over in the first instance, it creates no certainty that another "town," ten miles away, is going to follow suit. These "towns" or rather, communities, as they are, of small villages at varying distances from each other, only nominally recognise a head chief. There are thousands of these so-called "towns" in which the power of the chief extends only over the particular village in which he lives, and is not always then respected.

157. It will be thus seen why so much depends on native councils who have, collectively, to supply the want of strong native rulers. The work to be done by them, supported and encouraged by the district commissioners, is of the greatest importance to this Protectorate.

158. The delta native is fast being out-classed by those of the hinterland in the management and sphere of influence of native courts already established. He has had education, in some cases for half a century, but it would not be safe to predict that his brother, up-country, whom education is only now approaching, will not in a few years have totally out-distanced him. When this happens, when every district is in the first place governed by its own *educated* native chiefs, chiefs of a type improving physically and mentally, the change must inevitably prove to the welfare of the Protectorate. New ideas will create new wants with resulting new imports, and the native must do increased work to pay for them.

159. This education and improvement of the native, the main object of any administration working under the conditions obtaining in West Africa, cannot be attained all at once. It must always be fully understood just as the Protectorate Government has not to deal with one native chief—neither has it one native race to deal with. As has been pointed out—this is in no sense one country, but rather a series of, for the most part, small tribal communities without any connection with each other in language, religion (for the various "Jujus" are religions) or communication. One unfriendly town can bar a trade route. For this

reason where pacific measures have failed it is necessary to give the only lesson that is understood—punishment by arms. To open out an area for trade by force of arms implies, as a rule, the closing of the trade routes immediately affected and, for the time being, a loss of trade; but this has to be recognised and faced; otherwise the impossible position of an administration "governing" areas through which its officials are unable to penetrate is created—a *reductio ad absurdum*.

160. If the system of a European Government, adopted gradually and by experience earned, to native customs is of advantage to the country governed, so (paradoxical as it may appear) must the employment, where necessary, of force be. "Diplomacy" may win a point here and there, but in the person of the Administrative Officer it is often sent, unless supported by a strong escort, flying out of a town somewhat quicker than it entered it.

161. By this means new areas are opened up; the intentions of the Government are explained; the worst barbarisms indulged in are required to be put an end to; and the official concerned proceeds on to another town convinced, if he is a new hand, that the people will do everything that they have promised. Visit after visit may follow—but certain as day follows night comes a time when the native no longer "pretends" to believe in the power of the white man's government, which apparently only possesses, at one time, one white official and thirty soldiers. Seeing is the nearest to believing that he achieves; accordingly he issues his challenge by killing a messenger, capturing slaves, or closing trade routes, and so on. Then comes the inevitable punishment; after which his beliefs are founded on a little reality; order comes out of chaos at last and he gradually comes into line with the rest of them.

162. The areas not yet under control, where slave dealing, human sacrifices, juju observances, and inter-town warfare still go on unchecked, amount to rather more than one-fourth of the total area of the Protectorate. A considerable portion of the remainder is still in a very unsettled state. The opening up of the Protectorate has been gradually and steadily pushed forward; much of it has been accomplished in the last five years. Patient work and time will do much with the native, but only when he is in constant contact with the European. *Given sufficient European supervision*, the work done, and to be done, will the more easily be consolidated and made firm and lasting.

H. Bedwell,

Acting Secretary.

Old Calabar,

31st July, 1904.

APPENDIX A. (Paragraph 22.)

STATEMENT of ASSETS and LIABILITIES on 31st MARCH, 1903.

Liabilities.	Amount.	Assets.		Amount.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Deposits due by the Protectorate	21,377 8 1	Balances of the undermentioned accounts :—		
Amount due by the Protectorate on Account of P.O.G. Fund Invested	900 0 0	Local Cash Account	27,724 3 5	
Drafts drawn on the Crown Agents (not yet paid)	—	Crown Agents' Cash Account ...	3,108 1 9	
				30,832 5 2
		Advances due to the Protectorate ...		21,702 5 2
		Remittances to C. A. (not yet collected)	5,613 13 0	
		Remittances to C. A. (in transit) ...	15,864 9 7	
		Remittances to Coast (in transit) ...	—	
		Remittances between Chests (in transit)	1,557 8 9	
				23,035 11 4
		Investments :—		
		Public Officers' Guarantee Fund		900 0 0
		Surplus		98,000 0 0
Total Liabilities	22,277 8 1	Total Assets		174,470 1 8
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	152,192 13 7			
	174,470 1 8			174,470 1 8

APPENDIX B. (Paragraphs 34–43.)

Principal Articles of Import (Comparative Table).

Articles.	Total Values.				United Kingdom.				Germany.				Holland.				Importations from other Countries.	
	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Aerated waters	4,643	5,382	3,860	4,156	3,712	3,945	3,182	2,751	922	1,318	616	1,325	9	119	60	47	2	33
Ale, beer, porter, cider, &c.	4,172	3,962	4,799	4,033	2,076	2,273	2,631	2,605	2,079	1,689	2,016	1,404	17	—	143	17	9	9
Bags and sacks	11,802	11,435	10,396	10,931	10,998	10,308	9,304	9,850	894	1,127	1,086	1,073	—	—	2	—	4	8
Beads	11,354	8,041	8,224	6,457	8,963	6,232	6,337	4,175	2,380	1,793	1,771	2,055	11	16	—	6	116	221
Beef and pork	8,752	8,806	9,946	9,298	8,684	8,651	9,177	8,792	68	155	768	503	—	—	—	—	1	3
Building materials ..	45,565	45,567	59,501	76,623	42,337	43,816	48,005	74,131	2,809	1,391	1,826	1,814	419	360	556	586	204	92
Boats and canoes ..	5,479	4,830	3,513	3,617	5,336	4,668	3,000	3,070	143	192	409	503	—	—	—	—	104	44
Brandy	711	1,008	787	1,028	631	934	734	956	79	74	50	69	1	—	—	—	3	3
Bread and biscuits ..	5,736	5,159	5,439	6,080	5,736	5,159	5,432	6,070	—	—	5	10	—	—	—	—	2	—
Chemicals and drugs ..	6,733	7,358	6,804	6,981	6,702	7,338	6,735	6,888	31	20	61	90	—	—	—	—	8	3
Coals	19,495	14,439	24,960	16,527	17,114	13,893	23,919	16,284	1,202	546	1,031	229	1,089	—	—	4	10	10
Coopers' stores	65,695	69,966	82,711	83,220	61,581	62,203	75,403	79,095	414	814	878	712	3,700	6,949	6,390	3,413	40	—
Cotton goods	273,989	263,093	244,023	295,481	271,477	256,157	230,619	285,771	2,037	4,976	11,571	8,880	475	1,960	406	409	1,427	421
Cowries	1,345	3,919	7,616	2,875	951	1,408	2,927	2,846	394	—	704	28	—	—	513	—	3,472	1
Dane guns	8,838	3,369	2,318	2,699	4,187	2,599	1,550	1,661	641	191	107	—	4,010	579	640	331	21	707
Earthenware	9,924	9,199	6,704	6,769	8,858	8,856	5,906	5,928	1,066	333	608	566	—	10	158	272	32	3
Furniture	7,056	12,876	9,553	6,911	5,678	10,575	7,671	5,745	1,375	2,297	1,778	1,005	3	4	29	5	75	156
Gin and Gineva	99,115	117,597	139,931	134,271	1,523	1,834	2,079	2,162	30,342	39,632	47,815	46,016	67,250	76,131	90,084	86,093	3	—

Guns other than Danes..	2,053	4,251	4,350	8,638	1,995	3,956	4,230	8,581	58	108	88	36	—	—	—	—	32	21
Gunpowder	7,358	3,029	8,167	2.903	7,029	2,758	7,515	2,151	329	271	323	752	—	—	—	—	329	—
Haberdashery	4,429	2,361	1,546	1,124	4,389	2,309	1,285	1,066	31	52	133	32	—	—	—	—	128	26
Hardware and cutlery ..	51,646	69,536	72,589	62,188	36,848	55,333	59,545	46,369	10,305	9,215	9,078	11,562	4,493	4,988	3,805	4,113	161	144
Kerosene and lamp oil ..	207	1,046	6,896	8,577	167	913	820	965	40	133	780	1,626	—	—	—	—	5,296	5,986
Liqueurs	914	556	233	520	116	183	146	327	798	346	87	193	—	19	—	—	—	—
Perfumery	2,616	1,586	2,338	1,844	529	600	1,010	1,073	2,062	986	1,235	738	25	—	89	31	4	2
Pipes	1,516	1,772	2,874	2,105	1,372	1,714	2,765	1,919	34	16	62	181	110	42	39	—	8	5
Provisions	31,012	42,263	38,682	40,494	28,530	39,376	34,235	36,298	2,438	2,802	2,895	2,558	44	85	388	921	1,164	717
Rice	18,811	23,092	19,565	20,078	17,122	21,543	18,383	18,502	1,689	1,525	1,093	1,541	—	24	36	—	53	35
Rum	12,603	7,571	7,978	8,992	2,502	2,028	1,539	2,556	10,083	5,098	4,992	5,870	18	445	101	153	1 346	413
Salt	34,115	26,320	31,806	32,422	34,115	26,282	31,740	32,255	—	36	63	165	—	2	—	2	3	—
Silk goods	20,890	15,374	11,277	10,944	17,290	12,681	8,534	8,782	3,600	2,693	2,618	2,101	—	—	—	—	125	61
Soap	9,440	9,403	11,054	11,365	9,251	9,215	10,739	11,178	189	188	309	184	—	—	—	—	6	3
Sugar	3,047	4,500	4,627	3,451	3,044	4 451	4,572	3,371	3	49	47	80	—	—	—	—	8	—
Tobacco,unmanufactured	67,637	62,062	77,880	70,580	67,588	62,062	75,302	68,029	49	—	2,552	2,489	—	—	—	—	26	62
Umbrellas	6,141	6,787	6,732	5,830	5,747	6,502	6,374	5,483	394	285	317	333	—	—	—	—	41	14
Uniforms and accoutrements.	1,798	4,427	10,173	15,806	1,798	4,427	10,173	15,806	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wearing apparel	28,731	37,915	25,517	30,247	27,616	36,891	23,609	27,331	1,115	945	1,650	2,475	88	79	43	128	215	313
Whisky	5,110	5,283	6,501	7,710	5 064	5,268	6,482	7,694	46	15	15	15	—	—	—	—	4	1
Wines	5,697	5,501	5,719	5,997	5,432	4,760	4,935	5,205	264	703	662	697	1	38	11	43	111	52
Woollen goods	8,1 14	12,136	10,608	9,549	7.592	115,558	10,033	9,031	217	333	279	354	305	245	282	161	14	3
Totals	914,260	942,807	989,337	1,039,321	751,590	869,659	768,577	832,750	80,710	82,347	102,378	100,264	82,068	92,095	103,775	96,735	14,607	9,572
Specie..	178,686	209,822	164,089	228,079	178,686	205 223	157,775	216,120	—	1.900	2,208	1,000	—	—	—	—	4,106	10,959
Grand Totals ..	1,092,966	1.152.629	1,153,426	1,267,400	930,276	1 074,882	926,352	1,048,870	80,710	84,247	104,586	101.264	82,068	92,095	103,775	96,735	18.713	20,531

APPENDIX C. (Paragraphs 50–53.)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the PRINCIPAL ARTICLES of EXPORT for the Year ended 31st December, 1903, with corresponding period of the two preceding years.

ARTICLES.	Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1901.		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1902.		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1903.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Benniseed ... ... lbs.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cocoa ... ... ,,	230,726	3,138 18 0	302,305	3,676 12 3	288,614	3,652 14 0
Coffee ... ... ,,	34,131	300 3 10	20,825	206 11 4	50,342	524 4 8
Cola (Kola) Nuts ... ... pkgs.	4	14 7 6	29	63 0 0	15	15 0 9
Cotton, Raw ... ... lbs.	—	—	—	—	7	0 14 0
Ebony ... ... tons	1,303	6,009 10 4	1,005	3,527 17 9	1,048	3,742 13 2
Fibre ... ... pkgs.	5,176	3,184 15 4	4,886	2,845 15 2	5,685	3,226 2 8
Gum Copal ... ... lbs.	8,103	115 1 11	866,216	9,064 13 11	671,100	6,443 8 10
Ground Nuts... ... ... cwt.	4,196	1,202 8 11	6,432	1,917 13 9	9,363	2,732 1 5
Hides ... ... quantity	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ivory ... ... lbs.	39,448	10,995 5 8	32,622	9,629 17 5	18,274	5,735 8 10
Lumber (Native Timber) ... supl. ft.	128,622	11,228 16 8	164,630	13,235 1 6	460,446	32,027 14 0
Manioc ... ... lbs.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oils, Medicinal (Sandal Wood, &c.) pkgs.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Palm Kernels ... ... tons	56,871	437,092 10 10	57,140	453,084 19 0	68,330	526,738 1 2
Palm Oil ... ... impl. galls.	12,590,349	606,011 8 0	12,726,720	625,151 0 9	12,018,075	629,708 17 11
Rubber ... ... lbs.	1,740,156	106,924 15 5	865,834	46,945 14 7	1,177,803	61,815 11 2
Shea Butter ... ... tons	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Products	—	31,823 16 6	—	26,695 14 5	—	33,786 11 0
Foreign Goods	—	35,664 1 11	—	58,651 13 11	—	121,834 16 3
		1,253,706 0 10		1,254,696 5 9		1,431,983 19 10

APPENDIX D. (Paragraph 57.)

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES on which FOREIGN COUNTRIES are INCREASING their EXPORTS.

Articles.	1902.						1903.					
	Germany.		France.		Holland.		Germany.		France.		Holland.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Ebony	Tons. 593	£ 2,297	Tons. —	£ —	Tons. —	£ —	Tons. 741	£ 2,692	Tons. —	£ —	Tons. —	£ —
Lumber (Native Timber)	Sup. ft. 48,642	3,525	Sup. ft. —	—	Sup. ft. —	—	Sup. ft. 35,492	4,709	Sup. ft. —	—	Sup. ft. —	—
Palm Kernels	Tons. 43,764	357,095	Tons. —	—	Tons. 531	4,131	Tons. 52,558	406,928	Tons. —	—	Tons. 1,003	10,030
Palm Oil	Imp. Glls. —	—	Imp. Glls. 434,801	18,936	Imp. Glls. —	—	Imp. Glls. —	—	Imp. Glls 638,550	30,363	Imp. Glls. —	—

APPENDIX E. (Paragraphs 68-76.)

Shipping Table.

1901.

Flag.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Steam—						
British ..	226	250,197	1,265,767 1 8	218	247,567	1,194,656 6 8
German ..	26	32,507	31,349 0 2	28	37,973	59,049 14 2
French ..	2	2,282		2	2,282	
Sail—						
American ..	1	610	Included in value of Steam Vessels.	1	610	Included in value of Steam Vessels.
Total ..	255	285,596	1,297,116 1 10	249	288,432	1,253,706 0 10

1902.

Flag.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Steam—						
British ..	260	304,236	1,149,860 7 8	253	296,157	1,096,925 4 4
German ..	42	55,310		41	53,877	
French ..	1	1,236	96,621 2 1	1	1,236	157,771 1 5
Dutch ..	2	22		2	22	
Norwegian..	1	724		1	724	
Sail—						
British ..	4	1,404		4	1,404	
American ..	1	570	Included in value of Steam Vessels.	1	570	Included in value of Steam Vessels.
Swedish ..	1	403		1	403	
Spanish ..	1	6		1	6	
Total ..	313	363,911	1,246,481 9 9	305	351,399	1,254,696 5 9

1903.

Flag.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Steam—						
British ..	298	374,866	1,382,504 4 2	292	368,492	1,190,411 8 3
German ..	71	68,946		70	68,800	
French ..	3	4,717	110,243 15 8	3	4,717	241,572 18 1
Norwegian..	3	2,340		3	2,340	
Dutch ..	1	11		1	11	
Sail—						
British ..	3	797	Included in value of Steam Vessels.	3	797	Included in value of Steam Vessels.
Total ..	379	451,677	1,492,747 19 10	372	445,157	1,431,984 6 4

APPENDIX F. (Paragraph 96.)

RETURN of DISEASES and DEATHS in 1903 of NATIVES treated as OUT-PATIENTS at GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS at OLD CALABAR, CROSS RIVER, BENDE, OPOBO, DEGEMA, OWERRE, BRASS, AKASSA, BONNY, FORCADOS, BURUTU, WARRI, SAPELE, BENIN CITY, IFON, ASABA, and AGBERI.

Diseases.	Remaining in Hospital at the end of 1902.	Yearly Total. Admissions.	Yearly Total. Deaths.	Total Cases treated.	Remaining in Hospital at the end of 1903.	Remarks.
Malarial Fever	3	1,159	2	1,162	1	
Hæmoglobinuric Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	
Unclassified Fevers ..	2	111	—	113	—	
Influenza	—	1	—	1	—	
Variola	—	11	—	11	—	
Varicella	—	172	—	172	4	
Dysentery	4	191	14	195	1	
Beri Beri	—	14	—	14	—	
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	
Pyæmia	—	—	—	—	—	
Yaws	2	9	—	11	—	
Tetanus	—	2	—	2	—	
Tubercle	—	19	3	19	2	
Leprosy	—	11	—	11	2	
Syphilis	5	117	—	122	—	
Gonorrhœa	12	619	—	631	26	
Rheumatism	13	2,314	—	2,327	9	
Anæmia	—	77	—	77	3	
Undefined	—	999	—	999	1	
Gout	—	—	—	—	—	
Debility	—	9	—	9	—	
Alcoholism	—	1	—	1	—	
Meningitis	—	1	1	1	—	
Paralysis	—	—	—	—	—	
Epilepsy	—	1	—	1	—	
Diseases of—						
Nervous System ..	2	387	3	389	1	
Eye	3	514	—	517	8	
Ear	—	294	—	294	4	
Circulatory System ..	1	134	7	135	—	
Respiratory „ ..	28	2,164	9	2,192	10	
Digestive „ ..	10	4,909	17	4,919	13	
Lymphatic „ ..	9	457	—	466	3	
Genito-Urinary System	6	466	4	472	5	
Organs of Locomotion	1	280	—	281	8	
Connective Tissue ..	37	1,749	1	1,786	27	
Skin	7	1,968	—	1,975	39	
Injuries, General ..	—	7	4	7	—	
„ Local	51	3,722	5	3,773	46	
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	
Poisons	—	2	1	2	—	
Parasitic Diseases.. ..	6	844	—	850	5	
Guinea Worms	—	1	—	1	—	
Parturition	1	1	1	1	—	
Ulcers and Abscesses ..	24	275	—	299	6	
Total	226	24,023	72	24,249	224	

APPENDIX G. (Paragraph 123.)

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN for the Year 1903, OLD CALABAR.

Month.	Temperature.						Rainfall.		Winds.	
	Solar Maximum.	Minimum on Grass.	Shade Maximum.	Shade Minimum.	Range.	Mean.	Amount in Inches.	Degree of Humidity.	General Direction.	Average Force.
January ...	—	—	83·06	70·48	12·58	80·870	1·47	78·68	N.W.	—
February ...	—	—	84·51	70·42	14·09	82·426	3·53	73·30	N.	—
March... ...	—	—	89·67	74·25	15·42	85·46	·92	79·26	N.	—
April	—	—	90·96	75·46	15·50	84·488	10·06	77·86	N.	—
May	—	—	88·80	72·03	16·77	82·978	8·92	82·67	W.	—
June	—	—	86	70·46	15·54	79·599	21·48	85 52	W.	—
July	—	—	81·60	68·70	12·90	77·13	34·28	89·73	S.W.	—
August ...	—	—	82·19	69·16	13·03	77·46	27·32	87·43	S W.	—
September ...	—	—	80·53	67·10	13·43	78·08	11·81	87·76	S.W.	—
October ...	—	—	86·32	69·90	16·42	80·73	10·02	83·04	S.W.	—
November ...	—	—	87·26	69·13	18·13	82	9·62	80·61	S.W.	—
December ...	—	—	86·90	70·58	16·32	82·19	1·42	82·09	S.W.	—
	—	—	85·65	70·64	15·01	81·11	140·85	82·33	S.W.	—

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
413	British Guiana	1902–1903
414	Jamaica	„
—	Bahamas (Printed separately as [Cd. 1985]) ...	1902
415	Falkland Islands	1903
416	Leeward Islands	1902–1903
417	British Honduras	1903
418	Bermuda	„
419	Weihaiwei	„
420	St. Helena	„
421	Hong Kong	„
422	Gibraltar	„
423	Sierra Leone	„
424	Gambia	„
425	Ceylon	„
426	Gold Coast	„
427	Lagos	„
428	Bahamas...	1903–1904
429	Gold Coast : Northern Territories	1903
430	Mauritius	„
431	Seychelles	„
432	Barbados	1903–1904

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies... ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.

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1904.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 459.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

REPORT FOR 1904.

(For Report for 1903, *see* No. 433.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
September, 1905.

LONDON:
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1905.

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No. 459

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

(For Report for 1903, *see* No. 433.)

MR. EGERTON to MR. LYTTELTON.

Government House,

Lagos,

July 16, 1905.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the report on the Protectorate for the year 1904, compiled, like the one for 1903, by Mr. H. Bedwell, Chief Assistant Secretary.

2. The Protectorate has no debt, and at the end of the financial year 1903-4, had a credit balance of over £145,000 which has been considerably increased, by nearly £40,000, during the financial year 1904-5.

3. The history of the Protectorate is, I believe, unique both for Africa and for other portions of the British Empire. Throughout the whole of the territory now under our control settled Government has only been established by means of a show of military force, and yet the whole cost of introducing and maintaining law and order—involving the maintenance of a large military establishment—has been defrayed from the local revenues without incurring any debt. As each year a larger area has been pacified, a proper system of justice established, free trade between town and town and with the coast rendered possible, the increasing revenue has enabled a further area to be similarly dealt with in the succeeding year. In addition to this, large sums have been annually contributed towards the cost of the administration of Northern Nigeria.

4. I have so recently assumed the administration that I cannot claim any credit of these excellent results which are

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due to the efficient administration of my two predecessors and the loyal assistance rendered them by the civil and military officers of the Protectorate service; but it is nevertheless a pleasant duty to draw attention to the gratifying results attained.

5. The usual statistics of the trade of the Protectorate are given and a special report has already been published on this subject. The large increase in commercial imports and exports is very satisfactory, the figures being:—

—	1903.	1904.
	£	£
Commercial Imports excluding specie.	866,132	1,088,563
Commercial Exports excluding specie.	1,431,984	1,718,717
Total... ...	2,298,116	2,807,280

6. The British Cotton Growing Association's experiment on the Sobo Plains proved a failure, but they have now undertaken smaller plantations, in the drier climate of the interior, in the Uromi country, and at Onitsha, where there are much better prospects of success than in the damp Niger delta. At the latter place the Government plantations of this product have yielded exceedingly good crops of cotton.

7. The chief points in the history of the Protectorate during the year 1904 to which I would invite attention are:—

(*a.*) The continued increase in the trade and revenue which enabled a sum of no less than £93,000 to be devoted to extraordinary public works and also the payment of a largely increased contribution of £50,000 towards the cost of the administration of Northern Nigeria.

(*b.*) The Forestry Department is now fully organised and capable of exercising an efficient control over timber cutting and, in a lesser degree, over the proper tapping of rubber-bearing plants.

(*c.*) Many articles used in trade, building, education, transport, &c., have been placed on the free list and exempted from customs duties. Large permanent buildings have been erected for residential schools at Calabar and Bonny and more Government schools have been opened in the interior. The first Government schools for girls have been established at Warri and Sapele. The chief difficulty in extending educational work is the scarcity of teachers.

(*d.*) The first land telegraph lines were opened during the year and have proved of very great use both to the Government and the public, although interruptions on some sections have been unduly frequent. The rate charged for messages is only one penny a word with the minimum charge of one shilling. This, of course, is not remunerative, but the low charge is expected to develop traffic, and the lines have been constructed more with a view to helping efficient administration and as a convenience for the commercial community than as revenue-producing factors.

(*e.*) The construction of properly formed cart roads with no gradients exceeding 1 in 20, has been commenced and a road construction department organised.

(*f.*) The civil police force has been largely increased and has replaced the military at many stations.

(*g.*) The mineralogical survey of the Protectorate has been well started, and several valuable results obtained, but the interior portions as yet unexplored are more likely to yield remunerative results.

(*h.*) Surveys for a more accurate map of the Protectorate have made satisfactory progress.

(*i.*) Works designed to improve the sanitation of all the stations where Europeans reside have been continued with most satisfactory results.

I have, &c.,

W. EGERTON,

High Commissioner of Southern Nigeria.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1904.

FINANCIAL.

1. The revenue for the financial year 1903-4 ending on the 31st March, 1904, received from all sources, amounted to £470,606 1*s.* 3*d.*, while the total expenditure for the same period amounted to £477,755 14*s.* In addition to the revenue collected during the year a cash balance of £30,832 5*s.* 2*d.* was brought forward from the previous year, giving a total amount of £501,438 6*s.* 5*d.* available for expenditure.

Revenue.

2. The following comparative statement shows the heads under which revenue was collected in the years 1900-1, 1901-2, 1902-3, and 1903-4:—

Head.	1900–1.	1901–2.	1902–3.	1903–4.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	362,472	335,930	410,041	439,811*
Licences	2,055	5,407	4,789	4,707
Fees, &c.	6,513	9,327	10,028	8,662
Postal Revenue ...	2,366	4,341	4,944	3,006
Miscellaneous ...	7,488	6,810	11,007	14,420
Totals ...	380,894	361,815	440,809	470,606

* Specific duty, £381,728. *Ad valorem* duty £58,083.

The revenue for the year 1903-4, which was £70,296 1*s.* 3*d.* more than the estimated amount, exceeded that of the previous financial year by £29,796 15*s.* 2*d.* This increase is small when compared with that of 1902-3, which was £78,994 more than the total for 1901-2, when the revenue was abnormally large, following as it did the pacification of a large tract of country by the Aro Expedition. When, however, it is considered that the revenue of the year under review was derived from trade which extended over practically the same area only, the result is satisfactory as indicating the healthy condition and steady improvement of the commerce of the Protectorate.

3. It may be observed that practically the whole of the increase of £29,796 15*s.* 2*d.* over the revenue of the previous year was derived from customs duties. The duty collected upon specific goods amounted to £381,728, an increase of £26,478 upon the specific duties received in 1902-3; while under ad valorem the total amount collected was £58,043, being £3,252 more than in 1902-3. The proportionate increase of

specific duties was slightly larger than ad valorem, being about 7½ per cent. as against 6 per cent.

4. The decrease of £82 15*s.* 9*d.* under "Licences, &c.," is attributable to a falling off in "Royalties." Very few new timber concessions were taken up, the attention of concessionaires being devoted to the development of concessions acquired in the previous financial year.

5. Under the head "Fees, &c.," a decrease of £1,365 11*s.* 11*d* is shown, although the total receipts were £101 18*s.* 9*d.* in excess of the estimated amount. This is due to the fact that the work executed by the Marine Department for firms and private individuals was much less than in the previous financial year, a contingency which it was impossible to foresee.

6. The falling off in "Postal Revenue" to the extent of £1,937 8*s.* 11*d.* was caused not by any diminution of ordinary postal business but by the fact that in 1902-3 large purchases of postage stamps were made by collectors in anticipation of withdrawal from sale of the Victorian issue.

7. Under "Miscellaneous" the revenue received exceeded the estimated amount by £9,914 8*s.* 10*d.*, due chiefly to the export duty on timber credited to the sub-head "Other Services unspecified," and amounting to over £7,000. The other principal increases were "Interest," £1,644; "Sale of Presents," £223; "Receipts from Akassa Canteen," £178; "Refund of messing S.W. 'Valiant,'" £141; and "S.Y. 'Ivy,'" £163; "Sale of Presents," £103.

8. The details given herein refer to the financial year ending on the 31st March, 1904, covering a period of the first three months only of 1904, and, therefore, afford scanty information as to the actual revenue received during that calendar year. This, however, has been obtained from the accounts of the succeeding financial year. The total revenue received from all sources in the calendar year 1904 amounted to £550,013, which was brought to account under the heads shown in the following statement:—

Head.	1st January to 31st December.
	£
Customs duties	519,676
Licences	5,670
Fees, &c.	9,825
Postal Revenue	3,956
Miscellaneous	10,886
Total	550,013

The revenue of the Calendar Year 1903 amounted to £429,283.

The amount of "Customs Duties" shown will probably not agree with the figures given in the report upon the Customs department, but the difference is one of accounting only and not in actual receipts, for the reason that export duty collected upon timber from January 1st to March 31st, 1904 (the last quarter of the financial year 1903-4) was brought to account in the Treasury books under the head "Miscellaneous" as "Other Services unspecified," whilst in the Customs department it was included in "General Customs Revenue." (See paragraph 7.)

Legislation affecting Revenue.

9. No legislation affecting revenue was introduced in the financial year 1903-4.

Expenditure.

10. The following statement shows the expenditure for 1903-4 in comparison with that of 1901-2 and 1902-3:—

Head.	1901–2.	1902–3.	1903–4.
	£	£	£
1. Pensions, &c.	931	1,163	3,331
2. High Commissioner	4,744	4,450	3,704
3. Secretary	2,276	3,579	3,646
4. Political, &c.	25,005	29,248	31,684
5. Judicial	3,034	2,966	3,349
6. Legal, &c.	748	1,158	1,100
7. Survey Department	1,718	2,070	1,816
8. Treasury	3,275	4,137	4,756
9. Customs	8,299	9,019	9,786
10. Postal and Telegraphs	3,669	4,534	4,960
11. Printing	1,964	2,430	2,724
12. Audit	741	1,165	1,294
13. Force	53,044	69,508	68,891
14. Marine...	46,234	75,406	57,527
15. Prisons	10,576	6,932	11,394
16. Civil Police	—	5,172	8,049
17. Forestry, &c.	2,757	3,646	4,895
18. Medical	13,278	16,969	18,513
19. Sanitary	1,175	1,384	1,899
20. Transport	15,607	19,440	21,024
21. Aborigines	9,204	11,012	13,695
22. Education	1,070	1,919	2,513
23. Miscellaneous	37,205	58,200	30,311
24. Contribution to Northern Nigeria	33,786	34,215	50,000
25. Public Works Department	5,744	8,245	10,044
26. Public Works Recurrent	5,964	8,018	13,015
27. Public Works and Services Extraordinary	39,349	69,309	93,836
Total	331,397	455,294	477,756

11. The expenditure for the year amounted to £477,755 14*s*., exceeding the original estimate of £442,478 12*s*. 4*d*. by £35,277 1*s*. 8*d*., and, when compared with the expenditure on 1902-3, an increase of £22,462 3*s*. 1*d*. is shown. Supplementary expenditure, amounting to £60,489 1*s*. 1*d*., was sanctioned during the year, and this, when added to the expenditure originally estimated and sanctioned by the Secretary of State (£442,478 12*s*. 4*d*.) gives a total of £502,967 13*s*. 5*d*. sanctioned against £477,755 14*s*. actually expended.

12. There were excesses in expenditure under eight heads of the estimates, and savings under the remaining eighteen heads, resulting in net excess expenditure of £35,277 1*s*. 8*d*. over the original estimated expenditure as stated in the preceding paragraph. The approved supplemental expenditure, however, appears under five heads only, viz., "Audit," "Prison," "Transport," "Aborigines," and "Miscellaneous."

13. The increase of £2,168 9*s*. 5*d*. under the head "Pensions" shown, when compared with the year 1902-3, was due to a considerable addition to the pension list on the retirement of five officers.

14. Under the head "High Commissioner" there was a decrease of £746 15*s*. 2*d*., owing to the retirement of the High Commissioner and the period which elapsed before a successor was appointed.

15. An increase of £66 16*s*. 11*d*. in the Secretary's Department was caused by the large increase of work necessitating augmentation of the clerical staff.

16. In the Political and Administrative Department an increase of £2,435 9*s*. 11*d*. appears. Under "Judicial," £382 17*s*.; "Treasury," £618 12*s*. 5*d*.; "Customs," £767 4*s*. 1*d*.; "Postal and Telegraphs," £425 19*s*.; "Printing," £294 7*s*. 11*d*.; "Audit," £129 2*s*. 2*d*.; "Prisons," £4,462 9*s*. 11*d*.; "Civil Police," £2,876 17*s*. 2*d*.; "Forestry and Botanical," £1,248 11*s*. 9*d*.; "Medical," £1,543 12*s*. 3*d*.; "Sanitary," £515 16*s*. 5*d*.; "Transport," £1,584 1*s*. 8*d*.; "Aborigines," £2,683 2*s*. 9*d*.; and "Public Works Department," £1,799 10*s*. 4*d*.

The increased expenditure under all these heads was caused by the necessary additions to staff, both European and native, to enable the Government to provide for the administration of the large area now under control, the development of the Forestry Department, and urgent requirements in the way of Public Works generally.

17. The decrease of £17,879 10*s*. 2*d*. under "Marine" does not indicate any reduction either in the staff or work of the Department, but is accounted for by the transfer to the head "Public Works and Services Extraordinary" of the cost of

building new craft which had hitherto been brought to account under "Other Charges" of the Marine Department. A corresponding increase is thus shown under the head "Public Works and Services Extraordinary" with a total increase of £24,527 3*s.* 9*d.* Under the head "Public Works Recurrent" the introduction of the new sub-heads to provide a standard stock of materials and stores caused an increase of £4,996 10*s.* 5*d.* In the Education Department additions to the staff and the establishment of a depôt for the supply of books to schools resulted in an increase of £594 9*s.* 1*d.*

18. The financial assistance rendered to the Government of Northern Nigeria was considerably greater than in 1902-3—the annual contribution from Southern Nigeria funds being fixed at £50,000, an increase of £15,785 10*s.*

19. The decrease of £27,889 13*s.* 7*d.* under "Miscellaneous" does not indicate a reduction in the ordinary expenditure under that head. A considerable proportion of the cost of the Aro Expedition was brought to account in the previous financial year, the figures for which were thereby rendered abnormally high.

Assets and Liabilities.

20. The balance of assets over liabilities on the 31st March, 1904, amounted to £145,043 0*s.* 10*d.*, which is somewhat less than that of the immediately preceding year when the amount was £152,192 13*s.* 7*d.*

The reduction was caused by the expenditure for the year (including £50,000 transferred to Northern Nigeria) exceeding the Revenue by £7,000.

21. Of the £145,043 0*s.* 10*d.*, excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st March, 1904, £116,670 8*s.* 6*d.* is represented by investments, by cash in transit to, or in the hands of the Crown Agents, and the balance by cash and imprest balances in Local Chests as follows:—

Crown Agents' Account.

——	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Cash balance...	4,182	18	5
Remittances in transit or not collected ...	25,487	10	1
Surplus funds invested	87,000	0	0
Cash Assets with Crown Agents ...	116,670	8	6

Local Accounts.

	— —		Total Assets.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash balance	37,825 6 2		
Imprest balance	5,025 7 0		
		42,850 13 2	
Remittances between Chests	—	6,060 7 5	
			48,911 0 7
Total Cash Assets ...	—	—	165,581 9 1
Add advances due to Protectorate.	—	—	19,845 11 6
			185,427 0 7
Deduct deposits due by Protectorate.	—	—	40,383 19 9
Excess of Assets over Liabilities.	—	—	145,043 0 10

Deposits.

22. The total balance of deposit accounts (£40,383 19*s.* 9*d.*) due by the Protectorate at the close of the last financial year shows a considerable increase when compared with the previous year (£21,377 8*s.* 1*d.*), and is caused (*a*) by the development of the money order business of the Protectorate, and (*b*) by the increased number of transactions generally.

The following are the principal accounts included in the total balances of £40,383 19*s.* 9*d.* in deposit accounts:—

	£ s. d.
Postal and Money Order Services... ...	23,643 9 10
School Funds...	2,913 16 8
Native Court Funds...	2,537 13 6
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	744 16 4
Workmen's Deposit Accounts (Savings Bank Accounts)	2,567 9 3

The balance is made up of sundry other deposits not calling for special mention.

Advances.

23. The total balance of advance accounts due to the Protectorate amounted to £19,845 11*s.* 6*d.* which is less than that at the close of the previous year when the balances outstanding amounted to £21,702 5*s.* 2*d.* Of the total advances (£19,845 14*s.* 6*d.*), £13,713 14*s.* 10*d.* was due from the United Kingdom and West African Colonies in respect of postal and money order

services, whilst the balance consisted of sundry advances issued to be accounted for in due course.

24. It should be observed that investments in connection with "Appropriated Sinking Funds" are not shown as assets or included in the asset balance. A statement is therefore given separately as required by Rule 46 of the revised Colonial Audit Regulations.

Description of Fund.	Amount of Stock.			Cost price.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Steam yacht "Ivy" Depreciation ...	13,672	0	5	13,594	4	1
" " Repair ...	5,397	9	3	5,168	19	9
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund ...	1,300	0	0	1,300	0	0
Coin Repatriation	626	5	5	626	5	5
Total	20,995	15	1	20,689	9	3

The interesting diagram attached repays inspection. The steady rise of revenue increasing as it does by leaps and bounds gives cause for congratulation. At the same time the figures of expenditure show the same upward tendency, but in considering the current rise of expenditure with revenue the peculiar conditions of the Protectorate must be kept in view to guard against any misconception as to the economical allocation of the large sums at the disposal of the Government.

As new areas are brought under control additional staff has to be found, and in this country the staff to be provided is what in an Eastern Colony would be regarded as a double staff when it is remembered that every officer is absent from duty about six months out of 18 and a relief must be ready to take up his duty. It is important not to lose sight of this consideration when dealing with additions to the permanent staff.

Currency.

The currency and legal tender is British sterling. A small importation of the Imperial bronze coinage has been made, but at present there appears to be no inclination on the part of the natives to adopt it, the circulation being extremely small. The native currency of brass rods and manillas is accepted as legal tender in native markets in which they were current previous to the introduction of the Native Currency Proclamation (1902), the rates of exchange being for brass rods, four to 1*s.*; atorni manillas, 16 to 1*s.*; for awirawu manillas, six to 1*s.*; abbie or prince manillas, 12 to 1*s.*; and ama-ogono or town manillas, 24 to 1*s.*; and for perkule manillas, four to 1*s.* In the Calabar and Cross River Districts there are also in

circulation copper wires known as "citims," the rate of exchange being 20 to 3*d.* (one brass rod), or 80 to 1*s.* Cowries are still used as currency in some parts of the Protectorate.

Specie amounting to £222,892 3*s.* 2*d.* was imported during the financial year, an increase of £40,498 4*s.* on the imports for 1902-3 which amounted to £182,393 19*s.* 2*d.* Of the £222,892 3*s.* 2*d.* only £26,892 3*s.* 2*d.* was imported by mercantile firms, the balance of £196,000 being required by the Government of Northern Nigeria. A large proportion of the specie imported for Northern Nigeria filters into the hands of the firms trading on the Niger, and eventually into circulation in Southern Nigeria. The Anglo-African Bank has branches at Calabar and Burutu.

The system of currency in the Protectorate is in fact in a stage of transition. The use of wires, manillas and such media of exchange is being gradually checked by the embargo placed on their import. Silver is beginning to circulate, but copper is difficult to bring into general use, the silver threepenny piece being still looked on as the unit of currency.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND SHIPPING.

Imports and Exports.

*Imports.**

The comparative statement of the value of imports for 1903 and 1904 which is given below, shows gratifying progress.

—	1903.	1904.
	£	£
Free Imports (Commercial) Goods	212,278	305,979
„ Specie	26,079	42,239
„ (Government of Northern and Southern Nigeria) Goods.	112,473	94,412
Free Imports (Government of Northern and Southern Nigeria) Specie.	202,000	195,500
Specific Imports (Commercial)	301,692	392,456
„ „ (by the two Governments) ...	14,344	7,894
Ad valorem Imports (Commercial)	564,440	696,107
„ „ (by the two Governments) ...	59,438	57,881
Total Imports on which duties were paid	866,132	1,088,563
Total Imports	1,492,747	1,792,468

* *See* Appendix A.

The aggregate value of imports has risen by £299,721 and the value of the imports on which duties were actually levied has increased by £222,431. While in 1903 there was a decline in the value of goods paying specific duties there is a very considerable advance under that heading in 1904.

The value of the total imports after deducting freight, insurance and other charges was £1,608,590 as compared with £1,387,954 in the preceding year, showing an increase of £220,636.

Dealing with goods charged at specific rates it is found that the items which contributed most materially to the enchanced figures are ale, beer, porter and cider, (£1,174); gunpowder, (9,356); kerosene, (£3,986); salt, (£6,142); gin and geneva, (£41,881); rum, (£41,881); sugar, (£2,943); tobacco, (£14,771). Of goods yielding an *ad valorem* duty the following contributed to the increased value: beads, (£2,885); beef and pork, (£1,498); brass and copper wires, (£1,787); bread and biscuits, (£1,434); chemicals and drugs, (£2,824); cotton goods, (£61,494); earthenware, (£1,970); hardware, (£11,190); leather goods, (£2,516); perfumery, (£1,237); provisions, (£6,701); rice, (£10,888); silk goods, (£8,279); soap, (£2,660); stationery, (£1,011); umbrellas, (£5,113); wearing apparel, (£13,521); woollen goods, (£3,238).

It is noticeable that the value of umbrellas imported has doubled in the year.

The value of almost every item of import has advanced. There are very few instances of decrease, and the only one of any importance is £2,757 under guns other than "Danes." These import figures are in every way satisfactory, and the following table indicates the steady expansion and development of the import trade:—

Year.	Value of Imports
	£
1901	1,297,116
1902	1,246,481
1903	1,492,747
1904	1,792,468

Turning to the amount of duty encashed it will be found that specific duties yielded £443,335 while *ad valorem* duties contributed £69,548 to the exchequer. In all £512,883 was netted against £400,146 in 1903 or an advance of £112,737.

The total refunds amounted to £1,492.

*Exports.**

The gross value of exports was £1,718,717 comprising £1,585,706, indigenous products, and £133,010 foreign manufactures, which discloses an advance of £275,557 under indigenous products.

All the staple products show an increase in volume and value of export, the chief contributors to this pleasing result being rubber, (£97,175); palm oil, (£80,347); palm kernels, (£71,215); ground-nuts, (£2,267); cocoa, (£1,329).

Ebony and ivory declined by some £2,000 each and gums showed a fall of £1,000. The shrinkage in ebony and ivory is explained by the native rising in N'sanakang District which led to the closing of the local German factories. The decrease under ivory is accounted for by the abolition of slave centres in Northern Nigeria where this commodity was used as a medium of purchase. The decline in gums may be attributed to the fact that the natives are now devoting their energies to the collection of more profitable produce.

That the advance in prosperity disclosed by the export figures is no sudden one, but a steady progress accounted for by the opening up of new country and the exploiting of fresh markets is clear from the annexed figures:—

Value of Exports.

1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
£ 1,253,706	£ 1,254,696	£ 1,431,984	£ 1,718,717

DIRECTION OF TRADE.

The sources of origin of the imports are given below:—

1901.

United Kingdom.

Year.	Imports.	Specie.	Imports less Specie.
	£	£	£
1901	1,072,962	205,222	867,740
1902	1,004,958	157,775	847,183
1903	1,228,959	216,120	1,012,839
1904	1,416,554	201,734	1,214,820

* *See* Appendix B.

British Colonies.

Year.	Imports.	Specie.	Imports less Specie.
	£	£	£
1901	4,708	2,700	2,008
1902	3,032	900	2,132
1903	14,939	10,227	4,712
1904	45,653	35,930	9,723

Foreign Countries.

Year.	Imports.	Specie.	Imports less Specie.
	£	£	£
1901	219,445	1,900	217,545
1902	238,490	5,413	233,077
1903	248,850	1,732	247,118
1904	330,262	75	330,187

Origin of Imports from Foreign Countries (less Specie).

Countries.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£
African Ports	7,488	8,344	4,258	865
America, United States ...	4,663	3,986	4,903	8,104
Belgium	—	—	—	—
France	2,531	—	2	261
Germany	102,108	111,798	122,284	168,056
Holland	97,565	105,239	111,788	147,245
Portuguese (Col.)	163	106	199	71
Spanish (Col.)	3,027	3,604	3,684	5,585
Total	217,545	233,077	247,118	330,187

This shows that the imports from the United Kingdom are in value above four times as great as those from foreign countries, and that imports from the Colonies while they do not as yet bulk largely in the returns are rapidly increasing in volume.

Germany and Holland are the chief foreign customers sending the Protectorate goods to the value of £168,056 and £147,245 respectively. The chief import from Germany is rum and from Holland gin.

In this connection the following figures are of interest:—

Return showing Quantity (in Hectolitres) and strength (in Centesimal Degrees) of Spirits Imported into the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria during the year ended 31st December, 1904.

Description of Spirits.	15 to 25 degrees.	25 to 35 degrees.	35 to 45 degrees.	45 to 55 degrees.	55 to 65 degrees.	65 to 75 degrees.	75 to 85 degrees.	85 to 95 degrees.	95 degrees and above.	Not tested by Sykes' Hydrometer.	Total.
Brandy ..	—	—	6·45	25·95	—	—	—	—	—	15·59	47·99
Gin	—	69·45	60,106·58	23,322·62	1,390·08	—	—	—	—	63·22	84,851·95
Rum	—	—	390·80	10,938·408	402·35	190·18	10·96	·5	—	108	12,041·288
Whisky ..	—	—	59·31	798·31	1·9	—	—	—	—	59·77	919·29
Other Spirits	—	—	·909	·27	—	—	—	·04	11·12	142·464	154·803
Total ..	—	69·45	60,561·139	35,085·558	1,394·33	190·18	10·96	·54	11·12	389·044	98,015·321

The markets for exports are shown below:—

United Kingdom.

Year.	Exports.	Specie.	Exports less Specie.
	£	£	£
1901	798,693	25,601	773,092
1902	820,057	2,000	818,057
1903	922,658	—	922,658
1904	1,079,544	—	1,079,544

British Colonies.

Year.	Exports.	Specie.	Exports less Specie.
	£	£	£
1901	7,488	7,360	128
1902	146	—	146
1903	263	150	113
1904	3,734	180	3,554

Foreign Countries.

Year.	Exports.	Specie.	Exports less Specie.
	£	£	£
1901	447,525	—	447,525
1902	434,492	—	434,492
1903	509,063	9	509,054
1904	635,439	—	635,439

Comparative Export Trade with Principal Countries.

Countries.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom	820,057	922,657	1,079,544
Germany	404,637	456,907	530,067
France	22,556	36,103	66,531
Holland	4,172	10,034	37,849
Other Countries	3,275	6,283	4,725
Total	1,254,697	1,431,984	1,718,716

Exports (less Specie).

Countries.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£
African Ports	3,126	1,826	987
America, United States ...	—	4,180	—
Belgium	—	—	—
France	22,556	36,103	66,531
Holland	4,172	10,035	37,849
Germany	404,637	56,907	530,067
Portuguese (Col.)... ...	—	—	—
Spanish	—	2	4
Total	434,491	509,053	635,438

Return showing Quantity and Value of Exports from the German Territories of Kamerun, passing through Cross River, for the year 1904.

Articles.	Quantity.	Value.
		£ s. d.
Ebony	—	—
Ivory	73¼ lbs.	11 2 2
Palm kernels	—	—
Palm oil	—	—
Rubber	544 lbs.	20 13 1
Native curios	—	—

Note.—No trade was carried on for the greater part of the year, as the factory was closed owing to the late rising.

Germany took exports to the value of £530,067, France £66,531 and Holland £37,849.

It is to be noted that exports to the United Kingdom and the British Colonies are rather more than one and half times as valuable as those to foreign countries.

The export duty on timber brought in £11,300 and the lumber trade promises to develope into an important and lucrative industry.

The exports of the chief staples were as follows:—

—	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Palm oil (gallons) ...	12,590,349	12,726,720	12,018,075	13,028,73?
Palm kernels (tons) ...	56,871	57,140	68,330	70,500
Rubber (lbs.)	1,740,156	865,834	1,177,803	2,408,926

In view of the boom in the rubber market which is yielding such a golden harvest to Eastern producers the development of the rubber trade is gratifying. It will be long before prices can be obtained in any way approaching those realised by the produce of the Straits and Ceylon, but as the cultivation is extended improved methods of preparation will undoubtedly be introduced with beneficial results.

While on the subject of Customs duties reference may be made to a proposal to introduce the Lagos system of stationing a produce inspector at each factory to put a stop to the adulteration and soaking of palm oil kernels. The local merchants requested the adoption of the scheme and have consented to pay an inspection fee of 6*d.* a ton on kernels exported to cover the cost of the necessary inspecting staff.

There is reason to fear that large quantities of percussion caps are surreptitiously introduced into the Protectorate and special measures are being taken to check this illicit traffic.

Efforts are being made to open up the trade of the Cross River and specially favourable terms in the way of loans and other facilities have been offered to pioneers. It is pleasing to record that several applications to secure these terms have been made and it is hoped that before very long the practical exploitation of the trade of this region will be a *fait accompli.*

The kindling of a spirit of rivalry and competition of the existence of which indications are no longer wanting, will exercise a salutary influence on trade and inure to the benefit of the native who will in the future obtain a better price for the produce as it is more eagerly sought after.

Imports and Exports into and from Northern Nigeria passing through Southern Nigeria.

The total value of direct imports into Northern Nigeria during the year was £95,781 and of indirect imports (*i.e.* those transferred from Southern Nigeria) £48,931 giving a total import trade for that Protectorate of £144,712. Of this amount the bulk consisted of Government imports and the articles admitted free into Northern Nigeria. The amount therefore received as Customs on imports passing through to Northern Nigeria is very small.

The total value of exports from Northern Nigeria was £152,821. This figure includes £95,840 for rubber, £1,327 for palm kernels and £3,005 for ivory.

The figures for 1903 are not available for comparison.

Shipping.

Steam Ships Entered.

Year.	Number.	British.	Foreign less German.	German.
1901	254	226	2	26
1902	306	260	4	42
1903	376	298	7	71
1904	446	349	2	95

From this it will be seen that the Germans do practically the whole foreign shipping business and that the proportion of German to British vessels which was as 1 to 9 in 1901 is now approximately 1 to 3½. In other words while British ships have increased in number by about 50 per cent. the German vessels have multiplied by well over 300 per cent.

Taking Tonnage Figures (Aggregate Tonnage of Vessels),

Year.	British.	German.
1901	250,000	32,000
1902	304,000	55,000
1903	374,000	70,000
1904	444,000	90,000

it will be noted that German tonnage which was one-eighth of British tonnage in 1901 was nearly one-fifth in 1904, and that while British tonnage has not doubled in the past four years German tonnage has almost trebled.

Average Tonnage of British Shipping.

1902.	1903.	1904.
Tons. 1,900	Tons. 2,000	Tons. 1,925

Average Tonnage of German Shipping Entered from Germany.

1902.	1903.	1904.
Tons. 1,532	Tons. 1,547	Tons. 1,520

The following table shows the proportion of vessels plying on the Branch Service between Lagos and Forcados which entered and cleared as compared with 1902 and 1903: —

	British Steamers.			Foreign Steamers.			Total.		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Entered with cargoes	244	272	330	39	52	73	283	324	403
Lagos Branch boats entered with cargoes.	110	108	125	—	1	19	110	109	144
Entered in ballast	16	26	19	7	26	24	23	52	43
Lagos Branch boats entered in ballast.	14	23	17	—	24	24	14	47	41
Total entered	260	298	349	46	78	97	306	376	446
Total Lagos Branch boats ..	124	131	142	—	25	43	124	156	185
Cleared with cargoes	205	244	324	41	76	83	246	320	407
Lagos Branch boats cleared with cargoes.	79	80	125	—	26	32	79	106	157
Cleared in ballast	48	48	28	4	1	13	52	49	41
Lagos Branch boats cleared in ballast.	42	47	21	—	—	13	42	47	34
Total cleared	253	292	352	45	77	96	298	369	448
Total Lagos Branch boats ..	121	127	146	—	26	45	121	153	191

These vessels are utilized for transhipping Lagos cargo. Such transhipments are not included under exports and imports. It will be observed that the Branch Boat Service is rapidly developing.

In Appendix C will be found a statement of the number, tonnage, &c., of both steam and sailing vessels for the last four years.

Agriculture.

Forestry—Onitsha Plantation.

The total area of the Onitsha Plantation is 450 acres. The bulk of this is planted with coffee, only a few acres being devoted to cocoa.

The total expenditure for the three years 1901-2, 1902-3 and 1903-4 was £3,258 while for the same period the revenue was approximately £1,260, shewing a loss on working of £1,998, or calculated on an average for the period there was an annual recurrent expenditure of £900 with an annual loss of about £400.

In considering the value of this plantation it would be unsound to pass judgment on the "will it pay?" principle, for experience gained as to the unsuitability of specific products to local climate and soil conditions may form a good investment, although the actual financial results may at first sight seem disappointing. It has, however, been deemed prudent to carry out experiments on a somewhat restricted scale and to put the plantation in charge of the Forestry Department.

With the abandonment of the coffee plantation the work of experimental cultivation will not however cease. Arrangements have been made and ground prepared for carrying out a comprehensive series of experiments.

Plots of ground will be sown with native cotton, with and without manure, with ground-nuts alone and with ground-nuts and wild native corn. It is believed that the leguminous ground-nut will supply the nitrogenous matter in which the soil is deficient. Various native beans, indigenous and exotic tobaccos, tea and indigo will also be subjects of experiment.

Cotton.

One hundred and twenty-eight acres were put under cotton cultivation and produced 4,826 lbs. of lint cotton which was shipped to England. 6,606 lbs. lint cotton grown by the Asaba natives has also been shipped while there remained at the close of the year 9,584 lbs. of cotton to be ginned, also grown in the Asaba District. The total amount of cotton ginned at Onitsha (11,432 lbs.) produced 14,700 lbs. of seed.

By an arrangement with the British Cotton Growing Association expenses in connection with cotton growing on the plantation are borne by the Association to whom the cotton is shipped. The Association purchases cotton grown by the natives at the rate of 1*d.* per lb. of seed cotton. Several experimental cotton farms were started in the Eastern Division but they proved an entire failure, chiefly due to bad seed, and

it is considered undesirable to expend more money in this direction as the people, fully occupied with the more lucrative trade in palm oil, decline to take any interest in the subject.

It is doubtful whether the natives in the southern portion of the Protectorate will ever take up cotton growing of their own accord, as a better return is obtained from the cultivation of yams, &c., with far less work and trouble than the cultivation of cotton entails. It remains to be seen whether the efforts of the British Cotton Growing Association at Uromi and at Onitsha will prove sufficiently remunerative to permit of the experiment being continued. The chief obstacle is the cost of labour.

In fact, owing to the labour problem the West Coast of Africa is seriously handicapped in competing with the East in any produce common to the two countries. It must continue to rely upon the produce of the oil palm in the trade of which it holds a monopoly.

A new nursery will be started for experimenting with American cotton, guinea and other grasses, cloves, lucerne and castor oil.

One of the main objects of these plantations should be the introduction of various species of plants of economic importance, both indigenous and exotic, that are likely to prove suitable to this climate. These should include timber trees such as the various species of African and American mahoganies, cedars (of the *genus cedrela*), the Indian teak tree, the African oak, the Oroko, Indian Pterocarps, Copaiba trees, and all rubber-yielding plants, including vines.

Forestry Work in 1904.

An examination of the mahogany forests of the Western Division during 1903 showed the necessity for raising the minimum felling girth from nine feet to twelve feet. This alteration was effected in order to preserve a proper proportion between the several age gradations of the trees. The forests were practically over-mature; and with a view to husbanding the wood-producing capital for the future, it became imperative to restrict the present exploitation of mahogany by increasing the minimum felling girth. Concurrently, however, with the introduction of an increased girth it was found advisable, in order to encourage the timber industry which is a comparatively young one and for various other reasons, to increase the area of the leases (concessions) from the old limit of nine square miles to 100 square miles and, with the consent of the Secretary of State, to areas even exceeding this latter limit. At the end of 1903 these changes were embodied in the new timber rules, Rule No. 11 of 1903. The immediate result was a very

large increase in the number of applications for timber leases, so great indeed that practically the whole of the Western Division had by the end of 1904 been applied for twice over, whilst competition for the other forest regions of the Protectorate became extremely keen.

At the end of 1904 twenty-seven leases had been either worked out or abandoned: thirty-three leases were being exploited in the Western Division, and thirty-two new leases for large areas were being negotiated.

The condition as to planting young trees to restock the forests has been conscientiously observed by lessees. Roughly about 54,000 flourishing young trees have been planted in ten timber concessions. Some of these young plants about three years old have already attained a height of 16 feet. The young mahogany trees planted in Calabar Botanical Gardens are not doing well; the leading shoots have in nearly all cases been damaged by insects and the stems by a wood-eating beetle. The plantation was made on very poor sandy soil which probably accounts for the sickly condition of the young trees and their liability to attacks from insect pests.

The natural regenerative power of the three kinds of mahogany, viz.:—*Khaya Senegalensis*, *Endendrophragma Condelli* and another undescribed species of the *genus* is excellent.

Seedlings and suppressed saplings are plentiful but owing to the dense shade in the forests these young plants rarely get a chance of development. Where timber exploitation is going on and the leaf canopy has been broken, a better state of things prevails, and the young plants have forced their way through the overgrowth.

Under the new rules, provision is being made to secure conditions favourable to the growth of young plants.

The natural regeneration of the iron wood or one of the many so-called African oaks, *Lophira Alata*, is very satisfactory, and so is that of the oil bean *Pentaclethra Macrophylla*, and the Dika nut tree, *Irvingia Bacterii*. Very few seedlings of that fine timber tree *Chlorophora Excelsa* have been found in the Western Division, but it is possible that the regeneration is more satisfactory in the Cross River and Calabar Divisions in which the tree abounds. Young plants of *Funtumia Elastica* seem to be plentiful in the two mentioned Divisions.

The increase of the European Staff of the Forestry Department has enabled the Conservators of Forests to make extended tours and acquire valuable knowledge of the indigenous products of the forests.

Rubber.—At the beginning of the year the "close season" for rubber, lasting from December to May, was on the advice

of the Conservator of Forests suspended, and resulted in an increase in the export of rubber during the year, of 668,770 lbs. Experiments are in progress to obtain definite results, and also to devise a better system of tapping trees, the present method pursued by natives being most injurious and in fact responsible for the death of numbers of trees. There is little doubt that the future supply of rubber largely depends on the cultivation of trees and vines by the natives. Planting has been vigorously carried on during the year by the natives in the Western and Central Divisions, 214 plantations having been laid down containing a total of 227,155 young trees.

Funtumia Elastica.—A quantity of seed is being collected for planting nurseries in the Eastern and Cross River Divisions.

Para.—The Para rubber trees planted some years ago in the Botanical Gardens, Calabar, are progressing very favourably and in some instances have reached a height of 30 feet; they have not flowered yet.

Ficu Elastica.—Trees of this species seem suitable to the climate, those in the Gardens have done very well indeed and reached a good size. Experiments in tapping them will shortly be undertaken to ascertain whether the yield of rubber is as great here as in other tropical countries. Plants of this species grown in the Botanical Gardens, Algiers, have turned out a complete failure so far as the yield of rubber is concerned.

"*Root*" *Rubber.*—As a great deal of confusion exists regarding the identity of the different kinds of plant yielding this product, a forestry officer has been placed on special duty with a view to procuring specimens of flowers, fruits, and leaves, and also to carry out experiments to ascertain the amount of tapping and cutting that they can successfully withstand.

Gutta Percha.—Palaquium Gutta.—There are two plants of this species growing in the Botanical Gardens; they both appear to be doing well. Cuttings taken from them have so far proved a failure, but experiments are being carried out to ascertain the best method of propagation.

Ceara Rubber.—Manihot Glaziovii.—A large number of trees have been planted in the Protectorate during the last few years; but they have proved a failure so far as yield of latex is concerned and their cultivation should be discouraged.

Castilloa Elastica.—Plants of this species in the Botanical Gardens, Calabar, are flourishing, but are not yet mature for tapping. The species is very uncertain in its yield of latex when removed from its natural habitat.

The Indian Teak.—Tectona Grandis.—The two specimens of this species growing in the Botanical Gardens, Calabar, are

poor, but their condition may be attributed to unsuitable soil rather than to uncongenial climate. It is proposed to procure large quantities of seed from Burma and to distribute it for planting in the various districts of the Protectorate.

Fibres.—During the year 5,781 packages of Piassava fibre, valued at £3,678 3*s.* 10*d.* were exported to Europe. The separation of the fibre from the leaf stalks is an industry which the natives of the Eket Sub-district are taking up successfully.

It addition to the course fibre extracted from the lower portions of the leaf stalk a finer fibre known as Rafia is procured from the petioles and blades of the leaflets. It commands a much higher price in the home market than piassava does.

It is proposed to take up the subject of African fibres thoroughly and to procure samples of every kind that the country yields. Amongst others it is proposed to send home samples of the fine silky fibre known as Kapok which is procured from the fruit of *Eriodendron Anfractuosum* (new name *Ceiba Pentandra*), the silk cotton tree that grows abundantly in the Protectorate. Several other fibre-yielding plants are indigenous to the country.

Gums, Resins, and Dyes.—The increase of the Forestry Staff will enable a study of these products to be carried out. Hitherto most of their time has been occupied in supervising rubber plantations and timber exploitation.

Table of Forest Produce.

——	——	Benin Name.
1. Gum Copal	Daniella Thurifera ...	Ogid.
2. Oil Bean	Pentaclethra Macrophylla	Opogga.
3. African Mahogany ...	Khaya Senegalensis ...	Ogwangu.
4. Large cane	—	Okakan.
5. Medium size cane ...	—	Orogbo.
6. Sma l cane	—	Ikan.
7. Vine Rubber	Landolphia Owariensis ? ...	Ugbo.
8. Root Rubber	Carpodinus...	Ubachie.
9. Rubber Tree (bastard) ...	Funtumia Africana ...	Bassa Bassa.
10. Long Capsuled Mahogany	(Endendrophragma) (Condelli).	Ikpwapobo.
11. „ „ „	(Endendrophragma) (Con delli Species).	Onamakuku.
12. African Green-Heart ...	Piptadenia Africana ...	Okan.
13. Species so-called Cedar ...	Trichelia Species	Opobo.
14. Baobab	Adansonia Dignata ...	Use.
15. Rubber Tree	Funtumia Elastica ...	Anyo.
16. African Teak	Chlorophora Excelsa ...	Oroko.
17. Iron Wood	Lopnera Alata	Eba.
18. Camwood	Baphea Nitida	Ume.
19. White Mahogany ...	Peltophora species ...	Agba.
20. Satin Wood	—	Anyemo.

LEGISLATION.

The enactments for the year 1904 consist mainly of Proclamations amending those of earlier years, and Rules and Orders giving effect to them. The Preservation of Wrecks and Salvage Amendment Proclamation gives necessary powers of inspection and enquiry to the Receiver. Of new enactments the most important is the Diseases Exclusion Proclamation and the Rules made thereunder, passed to prevent the importation into the Protectorate of dangerous infectious diseases.

The efficiency of the Police and Administration of Prisons has been dealt with by the legislature.

Orders under the Native Courts Proclamation, 1901, have been made extending and limiting where necessary the appointment of Native Courts. Some of these latter courts have made useful rules against Adulteration of Produce. Others have adopted the provisions of the Births and Deaths Proclamation, 1903. In consequence of this and the increased facilities provided by the Births and Deaths Proclamation, 1904, the work of Registration is increasing and the returns furnish a more reliable record. New enactments affecting trade and traffic are the Importation of Cowries Prohibition Proclamation, Orders made under the Roads and Creeks Proclamation, 1903, and the Customs Tariff Proclamation.

EDUCATION.

The increase of the Staff of the Educational Department during the year 1904 by a Senior Inspector of Schools, rendered it possible to secure more systematic inspection and examination of Government and assisted schools.

Great difficulty has been experienced in providing from among natives of West Africa a staff qualified to teach in Government schools, and two West Indian schoolmasters have in consequence recently been appointed and are attached to Bonny and Benin City schools.

The increased number of Government schools has entailed an addition to the lower grades of the native teaching staff. The daily attendance of pupils at Government schools has increased, as the natives in the localities where schools have been established have begun to appreciate the practical benefits of education.

During the year schools have been established at Aro-Chuku, Aseh and Aboh with the assistance of local chiefs, under the system of local contribution which has been fully described in the report for the years 1902 and 1903.

Girls' schools have also been established in connection with the Government schools at Warri and Sapele.

In connection with Bonny school substantial new buildings were constructed, to the cost of which the firms having agencies in the Protectorate contributed with the most praiseworthy liberality. A headmaster's house, two bungalows for native staff, four dormitories each capable of holding 50 boys, and a workshop were completed and occupied in the latter part of the year under review.

The establishment of a Technical Instruction Department in connection with this school where pupils will be taught carpentering, coopering, and other crafts has been heartily welcomed by the native chiefs. It is hoped that this will be an inducement to them to allow their boys to remain longer at school instead of removing them when they have acquired such elementary knowledge of reading, writing and arithmetic as makes them useful in checking the accounts of the house.

In addition to the buildings which have been completed, a large two-storied building which will contain a dining room and quarters for pupil teachers is now in course of erection.

The permanent buildings in connection with the Sapele school to which reference was made in the Report for 1903, have been completed and occupied.

At a meeting of the Board of Education which was held in March it was represented that the Rules governing grants to assisted schools were not sufficiently elastic and steps have been taken to amend them where they have been found by experience to be unsuited to local conditions.

Early in 1904 the Roman Catholic Mission erected a boys' school at Calabar where good work is being done and a large attendance has been secured.

In the latter part of the year the same Mission also began the construction of the girls' school.

10. Grants in aid to the amount of £1,002 were made to Government schools during the year.

Mission schools received the following amounts:—

	£	s.
Church Missionary Society	310	0
Niger Delta Pastorate	80	0
United Free Church of Scotland ...	470	0
Roman Catholic	482	14
Total of	1,342	14

11. A book depôt has been established at Bonny under the Educational Department for the supply of books and school equipment. The demands for elementary school books and school equipment was very great, and two large consignments from England were quickly exhausted. In all 24 schools have been supplied with materials from the depôt.

12. Considering the short life of the Educational Department and the difficulties to be contended with in such an undeveloped country, the work done may be regarded as satisfactory, though the record may not appear impressive.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.

European Hospital, Calabar.

In-Patients.—At the close of 1903 only one case remained in hospital out of a total of 127 admissions during that year. In the course of 1904, 112 patients were admitted, of whom four were still in hospital at the beginning of 1905. There were three deaths, giving a mortality rate of 26·54 per 1,000.

Out-Patients.—In all 1,411 cases were treated against 1,246 in 1903. Sixteen deaths were recorded, giving a death rate of 11·33 per thousand. One death was due to suicide, one to wounds received on active service, and three to drowning.

Native Hospital.

In-Patients.—There were 1,070 cases treated in St. Margaret's Hospital at Calabar, including 37 admitted during 1903. There were 62 deaths, giving a rate of 57·9 per 1,000. Forty-seven cases remained in hospital at the end of the year. The figures for 1903 were 911 admissions with 65 deaths, giving a mortality of 71·35 per 1,000.

Out-Patients.—30,862 cases were treated, including 224 carried over from 1903; there were 178 deaths, giving a rate of 5·7 per 1,000. 307 remained at the end of the year for treatment. In 1903 there were 24,023 admissions and 78 deaths giving a mortality of a little less than three per 1,000.

It will be observed that there was an increase of 284·6 per 1,000 cases of out-patients—a gratifying indication that European treatment is becoming now more generally appreciated.

The chief causes of death were diseases of the digestive system, diseases of the respiratory system and dysentery.

There are cottage hospitals at Warri, Aboh, and Egwanga.

Asylums.

Lunatic Asylum.—The only institution of this nature is the new Lunatic Asylum at Calabar.

There is a Leper Settlement at Asaba which at the end of the year sheltered 32 patients.

Prisons.

Number of Prisons.

There are now 22 prisons in the Protectorate. Those at Akassa and the Etebetum Brickfields were built during the year under review.

Description and Capacity.

All the prisons are on the associated ward system, each ward being so constructed so as to give each prisoner about 300 cubic feet of air space. At Calabar and Asaba there are a certain number of separate cells. There is, in addition, at the Calabar prison an infirmary containing 12 beds and two associated wards for convalescent prisoners.

Number Incarcerated.

The number of prisoners incarcerated during the year amounted to 8,899 men, 154 women, and 31 juveniles. Of these 4,067 were convicted prisoners, four were detained as debtors and 5,013 were detained pending trial. Of those convicted 25 had been previously convicted three times, 41 twice, and 56 once. The total number, 9,084, passing through the prisons show an increase of 1,092 over 1903 and 3,368 over 1902. The increase is due to the greatly increased area of the Protectorate under direct administrative control and not to any increase of crime.

Political Prisoners.

The number of political prisoners admitted during the year was 17 and there were 30 such prisoners in custody at the end of 1903.

Deaths.

The number of prisoners who died otherwise than by process of law was 173. This gives a percentage of 4·25 which compares unfavourably with the 2·66 per cent. recorded for 1903. The excess was in a great measure due to the extremely high death rate among the Ekomekus who on being brought round to Calabar Prison suffered severely from dysentery and pneumonia.

Prevailing Diseases.

The prevailing diseases in the prisons of the Protectorate were fever, diarrhœa, dysentery, pneumonia and chicken pox.

Escapes and Recaptures.

There were 152 escapes and of these 102 were recaptured. This number of escapes is high and may be due to the great increase in the number of prisoners as compared with the augmentation of the staff.

Value of Labour.

Assessing 1st class convict labour at 6*d.* a day and 2nd class labour at 3*d.* a day—and even this is probably in excess of its true value—the value of work done would aggregate £19,852. The expenditure on prisons during this period amounted to £15,954 11*s.* 1*d.* In 1903 the nominal earnings were £10,234 and the expenditure £10,153.

Native Council Contributions.

At present native councils contribute nothing towards the maintenance of prisoners committed by them, but arrangements are being made for a contribution in future.

Efficiency of Staff.

The Prison Department suffered for want of efficient warders and gang drivers. These subordinate officers seldom remain long enough in service to become really useful. The majority of the men enlisted as gang drivers do not realise their responsibilities or understand how to treat the prisoners under their charge.

The number of offences committed by prison officials in 1904 amounted to 99 against 183 in 1903.

Inspections.

During the year all the prisons except Bende and Akwete in the Protectorate were visited by the Governor of Gaols.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Civil Statistics.

The total number of civil suits instituted in 1904 was 693. Disregarding 281 small claims, damages for assault and trivial cases, the total was 412. Of these 387 cases were decided in favour of the plaintiff and 25 in favour of the defendant. There were no appeals.

General.

Comparing the 1904 figures with those of the previous year there was a decrease in "Offences against the Person" of 148, an increase of 45 in "Offences against Property," and an increase of 210 cases under "Other offences," in which latter number 119 under the law relating to masters and servants are included. In 1903 cases of this class totalled 231.

Native Courts.

Under the Native Courts Proclamation No. 25 of 1901 and the amending Proclamations Nos. 17 and 23 of 1903, 42 Native Councils and 30 Minor Courts have been established in the Protectorate. The annexed list shows their distribution according to the districts constituted under the Supreme Court Proclamation No. 6 of 1900.

The District Commissioner is ex-officio President of every Court in his district. In the absence of the District Commissioner, the Assistant District Commissioner, and in the absence of both these officers, the Vice President of the Court sits as President.

Each native member of the Court holds office for three months as Vice President in rotation according to seniority.

The Native Courts have jurisdiction and power in all civil and criminal cases to which native law applies and in which all the parties are natives, or in which any party not a native consents in writing to his case being tried by the Native Court.

The civil jurisdiction of Native Councils is limited to suits in which the amount involved does not exceed £200, and in the case of Minor Courts the limiting amount is £25.

In criminal cases Native Councils have power to award sentences of imprisonment not exceeding two years and fines not exceeding £100. In Minor Courts these powers are limited to imprisonment for three months and fines not exceeding £50.

When a District Commissioner or an Assistant District Commissioner sits as President, a Minor Court has the higher jurisdiction of a Native Council.

Appeals from the decision of a Minor Court lie to the Native Council, or to a Minor Court with the District Commissioner or Assistant District Commissioner sitting as President. The Supreme Court decides appeals from Native Councils.

Leave to appeal from the decision of a Native Council may be granted by the District Commissioner upon such terms and such limitations as would apply if the case had originated in the District Court, provided that no appeal is allowed where the amount involved does not exceed £50 or the term of imprisonment three months.

The Native Courts possess and exercise powers as conservators of peace and have the power of arresting offenders against any Native or other law in force in the Protectorate.

Native Councils have power to make Rules, subject to the approval of the High Commissioner, embodying any Native Law and Custom, and Rules providing generally for the peace and welfare of the natives.

A Native Council exercises a general supervision over all Minor Courts in its district, and the Rules made by a Native Council apply to all Minor Courts which are subordinate to it.

The clerical staff of the Native Courts is paid from Protectorate Funds, the Court making a refund of such expenditure in part or whole if in a financial position to do so.

The revenue of the Native Courts is mainly devoted to the improvement and general welfare of the district over which the Court has jurisdiction.

Early in 1903 the existing Native Courts were reorganised and the number has this year increased with an extension of the area under effective control.

During the year 1904 over 16,000 civil and 4,903 criminal cases were disposed of in the Native Courts. The large number of cases dealt with indicates an increasing tendency on the part of the natives to refer their disputes to these Courts for decision instead of having recourse to the varied forms of trial by ordeal which formerly existed.

Native law is administered in all the Courts in so far as it is not incompatible with any statute or Proclamation or repugnant to natural justice.

List of Native Courts as on 31*st December*, 1904.

District.	Native Councils.	Minor Courts.	Native Councils to which Minor Courts are Subordinate.
Calabar Division—			
Calabar	Calabar	Creek Town	Calabar.
	Oron	Adiabo	"
	Ikpa	Ikorofiong	"
		Uwet	"
	Eket	Eastern Ekoi	"
		Ibano	Eket.
		Itenan	"
		Inen	"

List of Native Courts as on 31st December, 1904—*cont.*

District.	Native Councils.	Minor Courts.	Native Councils to which Minor Courts are Subordinate.
Eastern Division—			
Opobo	Opobo	Obegu	Aba.
	Essene		
	Oboihia		
	Aba		
	Azumini		
	Asong		
	Asa		
Degama	Bonny	Omokoroshi	Okrika.
	New Calabar	Elele	N'Karahia.
	Okrika		
	N'Karahia		
	Agrita		
Owerri	Owerri		
Brass	Neme	Twon	Neme.
		Sabagria	,,
		Ekow	,,
		Ogbayan	,,
Western Division—			
Warri	Warri	Bogidi	Warri.
		Ajayube	,,
		Frukama	,,
		Okpari	,,
		Jeremi	,,
		Ougelli	,,
Sapele	Sapele	Abraka	Sapele
	Benin River		
Benin City	Benin City	Oromi	Benin City
		Agbor	,, ,,
		Opomo	,, ,,
Ifon	Ifon		
	Owo		
	Agbede		
	Afuge		
Central Division —			
Asaba	Asaba		
	Onitsha		
	Aguleri		
	Abutshi		
	Issele-Uku		
	Idah		
Agberi	Agberi		
	Omoku		
	Aboh-'Ndoni		
	Useri		
	Aseh		

List of Native Courts as on 31st December, 1904—*cont.*

District.	Native Councils.	Minor Courts.	Native Councils to which Minor Courts are Subordinate.
Cross River Division—			
Bende	Bende		
	Aro-Chuku	Itu	Aro-Chuku
	" "	Ahoffia	Bende.
	" "	Oloko	"
Afikpo	Ediba	Akuna Kuna	Ediba.
	Afikpo		
Obubra Hill ...	Okuni	Obubra Hill	Okuni.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The estimated European population resident in the Protectorate numbered 500 of whom 157 were officials and 343 merchants or missionaries.

In the preceding year the number of officials and "others" were 159 and 301 respectively.

The net increase of the European population was 40, there being a decrease of two under officials and an increase of 42 under "others."

The deaths during the year numbered 19, of which 16 were attributable to disease and three to accident, giving a mortality rate of 38 per thousand compared with a rate of 26·08 in 1903 and 27·22 in 1902.

The chief causes of death were fever and abscess.

The invaliding rate for officials was 114·68 per thousand and for "others" 69·97, the average rate being 84 per thousand.

The figures for the past four years are tabulated below:—

Comparative Table of Vital Statistics for the years 1901, 1902, 1903, *and* 1904.

Year.	Number.	Officials.		Death-rate per mil.	Invaliding per mil.
		Died.	Invalided.		
Officials.					
1901.	121	4	15	33	123·9
1902.	125	3	31	24	248
1903.	159	2	27	12·57	169·84
1904.	157	7*	18	44·58	114·64
Others.					
1901.	276	13	32	47·1	115·9
1902.	279	8	17	28·67	60·93
1903.	301	10	27	33·22	89·70
1904.	343	12	24	34·98	69·97
Officials and others combined.					
1901	397	17	47	42·82	118·42
1902	404	11	48	27·22	118·81
1903	460	12	54	26·08	117·39
1904	500	19	42	38	84

* NOTE.—Of these, two occurred in England.

Sickness was most prevalent during the months of May, July and October, and the highest death rate was recorded in August and October. The number of invalidings was greatest in July, August and September.

During the year 31,932 cases of disease were treated, of which 240 or 7·51 per thousand ended fatally. These included 250 cases of guinea-worm and nine of small-pox. None of the small-pox cases terminated fatally.

The number of successful vaccinations was 8,711 or 2,522 in excess of the figures for 1903, but these figures do not by any

means represent the actual number of vaccinations performed as many inoculations were made in November under the new vaccination scheme as to the results of which figures were not available at the close of the year.

The general health of the Europeans was fairly satisfactory and the invaliding rate fell by 33·39 per thousand.

The sanitary condition of Duke Town was much improved by the laying out of new streets and the relief of overcrowding. The town now presents a trim and clean appearance which excites the admiration and surprise of officials who have had experience of the malodorous squalor of the typical Eastern Bazaar. The water supply is excellent and the sanitary arrangements are being rapidly extended and improved.

A lunatic asylum was built in Calabar but legislation will be necessary to give the High Commissioner power to confine therein others than criminal lunatics.

Chicken-pox broke out in the Calabar jail and three deaths occurred from that malady.

There was a severe outbreak of guinea-worm among soldiers quartered at Calabar and the Cross River stations. There is no doubt that the troops affected acquired the infection while on active service in the Mkpani country about a year before.

By systematic drainage and filling up of swamps much was done to improve the sanitary condition of the stations at Opobo, Bonny, Brass, Forcados, Akassa, Sapele, Warri, Aboh and Asaba.

Thanks to improved sanitation, Akassa, once regarded as one of the unhealthiest stations in the Protectorate, has now become one of the most salubrious. The reputation of Forcados, too, is improving, but much still remains to be done in clearing it of mangrove swamp.

Registrar-General.

As explained in the report for 1902 the machinery for estimating the total population or even accurately ascertaining the number of births and deaths, is still so defective that any attempt to give reliable figures would be useless.

The number of births registered was 153 as compared with 34 in 1903. Of these 91 were male and 62 female births, 24 being among aliens and 129 among natives. The large increase is due to the adoption of the registration system by more Native Councils.

Of Christian marriages 76 were registered against 57 in 1903. In Calabar District 51 were recorded.

The deaths registered were 211 in number, comprising 130 males and 81 females. Among aliens 48 deaths occurred while the native mortality was 144. Of Europeans 19 died. The mortality of alien and native infants under one year of age was 38, and of children under seven years of age 66.

Thirty-eight deeds affecting land were registered, including 22 leases, four timber concessions, and 12 Powers of Attorney. The fees collected were £42 13*s.* 6*d.* 37 trade marks were registered, yielding fees to the extent of £59 15*s.*

Climate.

Meteorological Returns.

The rainfall throughout the Protectorate was not so heavy as that of the previous year. The greatest recorded was at Benin City in July when it amounted to 48·66 inches in the month.

The average for the four stations at which records were kept was 146·87 inches, the highest being at Bonny with 182·24 and the lowest at Sapele 93·59 inches.

Temperature and Humidity at Chief Stations.

Station.	Maximum Shade Temperature.	Minimum Shade Temperature.	Average Temperature.	Mean Relative Humidity.
	Degrees.	Degrees.	Degrees.	Degrees.
Calabar	95	64	80·59	89·47 to 77·66
Bonny	99	60	81·51	89·43 to 67·42
Sapele	94	65	79·35	92·93 to 81·18
Benin	94	61	76·97	75·62 to 71·93
Asaba	98	62	77·74	87·81 to 78·89

POST, TELEGRAPHS, AND SURVEY.

The statements of revenue and expenditure show that although the expenditure exceeded the revenue by £3,561 19*s.* 2*d.* there was a considerable development of postal business. The rise in expenditure is attributable chiefly to the inauguration of a telegraphic service.

"Personal Emoluments."—The sum of £4,286 14*s.* 9*d.* thus classified is nearly twice the amount expended in 1903 and

includes for new appointments, chiefly in the Telegraphic Branch, and increments to salaries:—

	£
One Superintendent of Telegraph... ...	379
Three Inspectors	300
Clerks, Postal Agents, Postmen, &c. ...	700
Linesmen	316
Labour gangs	166
Increments in salaries	200
	£2,061

The headings "Manufacture of Postage stamps," "Postal stores," and "Conveyance of mails" show increases rendered necessary by the extended operations of the Department. Under "Maintenance of Telegraphs" a sum of £754 was expended from May, 1904, when the lines were taken over.

"Overtime fees" and "Purchase and upkeep of Telephones" are new items.

Summary.

—	Decrease.	Increase.
	£	£
Personal emoluments	—	1,729
Manufacture of postage stamps	—	158
Postal stores	—	138
Conveyance of mails (Inland)	—	17
" " (Foreign)	—	290
Maintenance of telegraphs	—	754
Overtime fees	—	86
Purchase and upkeep of telephones ...	—	16
Postage for all departments	46	—
Uniforms and clothing	19	—
	65	3,188
	Less ...	65
Increase in expenditure		3,123

There was a gratifying increase in the number of letters, parcels and money orders dealt with.

Postal Revenue.

The statistics given below disclose an increase under almost every head as compared with the previous year's figures although the revenue fell by £142 18*s*. 10½*d*. which is explained

by a decline in the sale of stamps to collectors. In 1902 stamps to the value of £2,819 3*s.* 0*d.* were sold to philatelists, but in 1903 the value shrank to £1,211 6*s.* 2*d.* and in 1904 to £416 16*s.* 1*d.* The falling off in revenue is therefore not due to any contraction of legitimate postal business, and if this adventitious item of sale be eliminated, the deficit vanishes and in its place there is on other items an increase of £651 11*s.* 2½*d.* over 1903 and £2,018 10*s.* 11*d.* over 1902.

The following table shows the amount of revenue collected in comparison with the three preceding years:—

—	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Sale of stamps, postcards, &c. ...	3,309 2 11	4,527 17 4	4,214 6 8½	3,801 6 6
Commission on money orders ...	264 13 1	294 9 1	370 16 0	430 10 8
Unclaimed money orders ...	3 11 6	7 14 10	18 13 4	7 10 9
Rent on private letter-boxes ...	—	—	—	54 0 0
Taxed articles	—	15 13 2	—	—
Telegrams	—	—	—	156 15 0
Express delivery and portage of telegrams.	—	0 12 0	1 13 3	9 19 6
Telegraphic address	—	—	—	2 8 0
Total	3,577 7 6	4,846 6 5	4,605 9 3½	4,462 10 5

Letters.

The total number of letters, postcards, books and sample packets dealt with during the year amounted to 812,431 as compared with 742,034 in the previous year, showing an increase of 70,397. The figures for the last four years are:—

Year.	No.
1901	494,325
1902	553,909
1903	742,034
1904	812,431

Parcels.

The number amounted to 15,384 as against 13,718 in 1903, an increase of 1,666. The following figures indicate the steady development of parcel post transactions:—

Year.	No.
1901	9,314
1902	11,118
1903	13,718
1904	15,384

The sum of £596 was collected as duty on imports by parcel post, against £474 collected in 1903: the figures are:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1901	165
1902	366
1903	474
1904	596

Money Orders.

The business transacted showed a gratifying advance, both issues and receipts yielding substantial increases—£3,826 and £2,478 respectively—over 1903.

The figures for the last four years are:—

Year.	Issues.	Receipts.
	£	£
1901	21,089	2,124
1902	22,948	3,226
1903	29,069	3,159
1904	32,895	5,637

Postal Expenditure.

The gross expenditure was £8,024 9*s.* 7*d.*, or £3,122 17*s.* 9*d.* in excess of the figures of 1903. Personal emoluments accounted for £1,729 5*s.* 4*d.* of the enchanced cost of the department.

Comparative Table.

—	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Personal emoluments	2,204 3 7	2,218 6 3	2,557 9 5	4,286 14 9
Manufacture of postage stamps	355 11 1	117 5 8	117 2 7	275 8 9
Postal stores	37 16 3	358 5 2	229 14 9	567 5 6
Conveyance of mails (Inland) ...	498 19 10	507 14 10	981 11 3	998 2 5
" " " (Foreign)...	711 14 7	801 11 11	813 11 5	1,103 7 2
Postage, all departments ...	135 2 2	132 1 2	148 5 5	102 1 2
Maintenance of telegraphs ...	—	—	31 3 3	785 15 4
Uniforms and clothing	29 2 4	12 19 7	22 13 9	3 16 9
Overtime fees	—	—	—	86 2 9
Purchase and up-keep of telephones.	—	—	—	15 15 0
Total	3,963 9 10	4,148 4 7	4,901 11 10	8,024 9 7

Telegraphs.

During the year the telegraph system was inaugurated by the opening of stations at Benin, Bonny, Calabar, Egwanga, Eket, and Forcados. The total amount expended to 31st December last was £27,734 14*s.* 7*d.* and the total length of lines opened 181¼ miles.

The number of official telegrams (7,016) which have already passed over the lines is sufficient to indicate how greatly the service was needed.

The principal line is from Calabar to Bonny, a distance of 117¼ miles made up of the following sections:—

Calabar to Eket	45½	miles.
Eket to Egwanga	31¼	„
Egwanga to Bonny	40½	„
	117¼	miles.

The other line is from Forcados to Lagos boundary, a distance of 64 miles. At the boundary it meets a line from Lagos. This Lagos-Forcados line was opened for traffic during the year but has proved most unreliable owing to cable faults, damage done to the air line by the sea, and by the collapse of the posts supporting it in the treacherous mangrove mud. Large inland extensions detailed below—which will render the upkeep of this line unnecessary—are now in course of construction.

Appendices D and D1 give the number of messages despatched from and received at the different stations since 11th May.

The receipts on account of private telegrams, porterage, &c., aggregated £169 2*s.* 6*d.*

The working of the existing telegraph coast lines gives grave cause for dissatisfaction, there being numerous interruptions due to the falling of trees and the swampy nature of the ground traversed. Of late the cable portion of the Bonny-Calabar line has also proved so defective that it will be necessary in the near future to replace it by an inland aerial line.

Inland Mail Service.

The service continues to work satisfactorily, and has been augmented by a weekly service between Bonny and Degema. Postal communication is now established between the following places:—

Calabar and Bonny *viâ* Eket and Egwanga (weekly-launch and canoe).

Calabar and Obukun *viâ* Itu, Afikpo, Obubra Hill, and Okuni (weekly-launch, canoe, and runners).

Itu and Ikot Ekpene (weekly-canoe and runners).

Itu and Dende *viâ* Aro-Chuku (weekly-canoe and runners).

Bonny and Akassa *viâ* Bakana and Degema (weekly-launch).

Bonny and Owerri *viâ* Bakana and Nsokpo (fortnightly-canoe and runners).

Warri and Benin City *viâ* Sapele (fortnightly-runners).

Sapele and Benin River (fortnightly-canoe).

Asaba and Ogrugru (fortnightly-canoe).

Telegraph Construction.

The air and cable line between Forcados and Omolume on the Lagos boundary which crosses the Forcados, Escravos, and Benin rivers, and follows the coast line, being continually interrupted owing to the encroachment of the sea, and the rapid deterioration of the cables, it was decided to connect Lagos with Forcados by a land line which will pass through the most important stations in the Western Division and at the same time to further extend the telegraph system by connecting Calabar with the inland stations in the Eastern, and Central, and Western Divisions.

The urgent need of telegraph communication between Forcados and Lagos renders the construction of the lines in the Western portion of the Protectorate of primary importance. The line starting from Warri will pass through Sapele, Benin City, Ifon, and Owo, and run thence to the Lagos boundary where it will be connected with an extension of the Lagos-Ibadan line *viâ* Oshogbo and Ilesha, and communication will eventually be established between Warri and Forcados by an air and cable line.

The extension of the telegraph system in the Eastern and Central Divisions embraces a scheme for constructing a line to connect Calabar with Onitsha, the headquarters of the Central Division, and an important commercial centre. This line will pass through the newly-established post of Oyo in the Calabar Division and the stations of Aba and Owerri in the Eastern Division.

The Niger will be crossed by a cable at Onitsha, from which place an air line will be constructed to Benin City thus linking up Lagos and Calabar with all the important stations of the Protectorate, with the exception of those in the Cross River Division.

Survey.

The Survey Officers, who devoted their energies in 1903 to telegraph construction, were engaged during 1904 in the task of preparing surveys to be incorporated in the revised map of the Protectorate.

The delimitation of the boundary between Southern Nigeria and Kameruns still remains to be carried out but will, it is hoped, be undertaken shortly.

PUBLIC WORKS.

During the past two years the responsibilities of the Public Works Department have largely increased through the development of the Protectorate generally and the opening up of the interior.

The isolation of the outstations from Calabar renders effectual supervision over works in progress by the Head of the Department a difficult task.

The reorganization of the Department has in consequence been decided on.

Under the new system Divisional Engineers, one to each Division, have been provided to control and supervise all works, stores, &c., throughout the Divisions, and this policy of decentralization will it is hoped result in increased efficiency and greatly relieve the pressure now felt at headquarters.

At the end of the year the European staff consisted of the following:—

1 Director.
1 Deputy Director, on leave.
1 Senior Assistant, on leave.
3 Assistants.
11 Foremen.
1 Brickmaker.
1 Mechanical Engineer.
17 Foremen temporarily employed on specific works.

The principal works which were carried on during the year are enumerated below:—

Calabar.

Prison.—Completed; total cost £13,729.

New Barracks.—In progress; £8,317 spent during the year. Total cost up to end of year £13,500.

Lunatic Asylum.—Completed; total cost £1,095.

Contagious Diseases Hospital.—In progress; £586 spent during the year.

Kroo House and Boatswain's Store, Queen Beach.—Completed; total cost £1,157.

New Customs House and Post and Telegraph Offices.—Completed; total cost £3,169.

New P.W.D. Offices, Stores and Workshops.—Completed.

Director's Bungalow.—Commenced, and with the last two items has cost up to the end of the year £5,332.

P.M.O's. Bungalow.—Completed; total cost £1,500.

Blacksmith's Shop, Queen Beach.—Commenced; estimated cost £1,007.

Bungalows, Hope Waddell, High School.—One almost finished and two in hand. The total cost of these school buildings at the end of the year amounted to £9,764.

Quarters for Native Clerical Staff.—Twenty houses practically completed at cost of £1,832.

Store and Quarters for St. Margaret's Hospital.—Erected at cost of £310.

Police Barracks.—Native lines erected at cost of £160.

Artisans' Quarters.—In progress; £669 spent.

Extension to Printing Office.—Completed at cost of £150.

Cover to Slipway, Queen Bench.—Completed at cost of £570.

Secretariat Bungalow.—Erected at cost of £485.

Police Lock-up.—Commenced; estimated cost £175.

European Hospital.—Re-roofed and generally improved; cost £300.

St. Margaret's Hospital.—High Court House.—Anglo-African Bank.—Water supply laid at cost of £145.

Cross River Division.

Afikpo, Bungalow.—Completed; cost £1,530.

Obubra, Bungalow.—Completed; cost £1,351.

Bende, Bungalow.—Completed at a cost of £1,677.

Arochuku, Bungalow.—Completed at a cost of £1,173.

Afikpo Prison.—Completed at cost of £1,000.

Eastern Division.

Degema, Bungalows and Offices.—In progress; £3,172 spent.

Egwanga, Bungalows and Offices.—Completed at cost of £6,457.

Owerri and Aba, Bungalows.—Completed; cost £2,796.

Akassa, Marine House.—Re-roofed at cost of £264.

Bonny School Buildings.—Commenced and rapid progress made; buildings estimated to cost £10,000 of which £9,682 was spent to end of year.

Central Divisions.

Onitsha, Bungalows and Offices.—In progress; £1,895 spent during the year.

Establishment of P. W. D. Yard and erection of Engineering Workshops.—Completed at Onitsha; total cost £3,361.

Aboh Bungalow and Plantation Bungalow, Onitsha.—Completed at total cost of £3,484.

Coal Store, Aboh.—Completed at cost of £425.

Western Division.

Warri Prison.—Completed at cost of £1,124.

Warri Pier for seagoing steamers.—Completed at cost of £2,923.

Warri Coal and Transport Stores.—Moved and re-erected. This work was done under the Pier vote.

Benin City, Bridge over Ikpoba River.—Completed at cost of £912.

Forestry Bungalow, Benin City.—Erected; cost £1,853.

Ifon Bungalows, roofed with iron.—In progress; spent £1,937.

The local production of building materials has been pushed on, and good results obtained from the brickfields at Etehetem on the Cross River and Onitsha on the Niger, the output during the dry season averaging 100,000 a month.

Brickmaking has also been actively carried on at Degema and commenced at Afikpo and Insofan on the Cross River. At Calabar the natives are now beginning to take up this industry and it is possible that before long they will be able to supply all bricks required.

At Etehetem, bricks cost £3 per thousand and at Onitsha about £2, the difference being due to cost of labour.

Saw Mills.—There are two Government Steam Saw Mills at work in the Protectorate, one at Etehetem and the other at Onitsha. Both mills are in good working order and supply excellent timber at a price between 2*s.* and 3*s.* a cubic foot.

Quarries.—Two quarries were opened during the year in the Calabar District, one up the Ekoi Creek and the other at Uwet in the Calabar River.

Limestone and a shaley kind of rock are to be had at Ekoi and splendid granite from Uwet. At Onitsha a large quantity of sandstone has been quarried and supplied to Akassa, Warri, and Forcados for concrete work.

In connection with the scheme for the sanitation of Duke Town, a straight channel has been cut at the cost of £100 through the swamp lying between the town and the European Settlement, and the work of reclaiming the swamp by prison labour has begun.

ROADS.

Road-making was vigorously carried on at Calabar during the year. A road graded for wheel traffic was made from the beach level through the coffee plantation to the new barracks, prison labour being chiefly employed; a distance of about two miles.

A road was commenced from Calabar partly following the trace made by the Railway Survey towards Odukpani, and nine miles rendered suitable for cycling was constructed by the natives under the supervision of the District Commissioner and a Foreman of Works.

In the Western Division the Public Works Department have taken over the construction of the Sapele-Ologbo and Warri-Sapele roads.

Throughout all districts the improvement of existing roads and paths has received the constant attention of district officers with satisfactory results, and long distances can now be traversed without difficulty either on horseback or bicycles.

At the end of the year a Supervisor of Roads arrived in the Protectorate who fills a long-felt want and whose special duty will be the construction of new roads suitable for wheeled traffic on carefully surveyed traces.

Completed roads will remain under the charge of the Public Works Department.

The so-called "roads," a network of which intersects the country, are for the most part merely rough footpaths, often no broader than sheep tracks, which have been trodden out with no idea of following a straight line. A fallen tree or other obstacle leads to the diversion of the path, as it is simpler to walk round than to remove the obstruction. In the days of constant village feuds easy communication was often a source of danger and the broadening of the paths was undesirable. This state of affairs led to the isolation of individual villages, and in many cases even the chiefs have been content to know nothing of the world outside their own restricted domains.

Roadmaking must in the future be a very powerful factor for good in opening up the country and breaking down the old barriers of enmity and distrust which have so long existed, to the detriment of commerce and the spread of civilizing influences.

Certain portions of the native paths can be ridden over on horseback, and, with care, traversed on a bicycle. Some of the paths have been improved, and the annexed list gives the roads now under construction to be adapted for wheeled traffic. In the flat Owerri District over 200 miles of straight roadway forty feet wide have been cleared by the natives under the supervision of the District Commissioner, and when supplied with proper bridges over the streams and rivers, and when the surface has been properly levelled, will make the use of wheeled vehicles easy throughout this district. This is the first step towards providing the Protectorate with a system of roads in the European acceptation of the word, and in the course of the next few years the native of the interior who looks on a bicycle with awe will perhaps gaze in wonder at a motor car.

List of Roads under Construction.

—	Mileage Completed.	Mileage under Construction.
Calabar Division—		
Calabar to Odukpani Nsan and Oban ...	10	2½
Calabar to Creek Town	—	2
Itu to Ikot-Ekpene	—	25
Western Division—		
Warri to Sapele	—	25
Sapele to Ologbo	11	⅓
Ologbo to Benin City	—	19

Other Reports not to hand.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

This department is one of the most important in the Protectorate and makes the heaviest demands on the exchequer, the average expenditure being now about £75,000 annually.

There are 26 steam craft in commission with a subsidiary fleet of over 150 canoes and lighters.

Forty-six Europeans are borne on the establishment, and control a staff of nearly 900 native employees.

There is but a small direct pecuniary return for the heavy expenditure involved but it is, of course, impossible as yet to expect any but indirect advantages from opening up the rivers and developing trade by new steamers services.

The Government yacht "Ivy" after being in commission for 3½ years was sent home for repairs, the cost of which amounted to over £12,500. The annual upkeep of this vessel costs about £7,500 and her original cost was some £60,000.

There are dockyards at Calabar and Akassa which are kept busy all the year round attending to the numerous overhaulings and repairs that have to be effected.

The inauguration of the Cross River Transport Service adds to the work of the department.

During the year 28 waterways were cleared—efforts being specially directed to improving the water communication with the Colony of Lagos.

Experiments were made with kernel shells as fuel, but so far the trials have been inconclusive. Burnt alone the shells are so quickly consumed that difficulty is experienced in carrying a sufficient quantity on small craft; with an admixture of coal they yield fairly satisfactory results, but it is found that the ordinary fire grate is unsuitable for the proper combustion of such fuel and further experiments are being made with a modified type of grate. If the experiment proves successful the saving in cost of fuel will be very considerable.

The use of motor launches is now within the scope of practical politics, and before many years it is hoped that this modern type of craft will come into general use. At present there is a difficulty, as the steamship companies charge very high rates for carrying petrol.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

The total strength of the Southern Nigeria Regiment of the West African Frontier Force on December 31st was 1,379 made up of 49 officers, 22 British non-commissioned officers, and 1,308 rank and file.

The following stations in addition to headquarters were garrisoned by troops during the year, viz.:—Asaba, Idah, Owerri, Bende, Afikpo, Okuni, Obubra Hill, Ikot-Ekpene, Aba, and Eket,

At the beginning of the year a contingent consisting of 387 officers, non-commissioned officers and men proceeded to the North Ibibio Country. The object of the expedition was to punish various tribes who were closing trade routes, to bring under control that part of the Ibibio country lying between the Cross and Imo Rivers, and to establish a new station. Considerable opposition was met with, but by the beginning of March all the hostile tribes had submitted and surrendered war guns to the number of 3,941.

In January a force of 394 officers, non-commissioned officers, and men, which had left Asaba in December, carried out operations in the Ndoto country rendered necessary by an attack on the District Commissioner when travelling with a small escort. It had little fighting and by the end of January had completed its task.

Before however it returned to Asaba it was met with the news of an outbreak in the Asaba hinterland. The Eku Meku, a powerful secret society, had suddenly risen, sacked and burnt a number of mission stations and had threatened Asaba, the district headquarters, itself. The column which was later reinforced by 60 rank and file from the North Ibibio column, met with severe fighting, but by the end of March the ringleaders of the rebellion were captured and the country quieted. The column then proceeded to the Kwale country to patrol and open up trade routes. This was successfully accomplished by the beginning of May.

In January the natives on the Cross River portion of the Kameruns boundary revolted, looted and burnt the German trading stations at Nsanakang and Ossidinge and cut up the small German garrison stationed there, killing the European officers.

The rebels then threatened Abokam on the British side of the boundary, and a small force was hurriedly collected and thrown into that place. It was able to hold the posts and keep its lines of communication open.

The operations of a column consisting of 220 officers, non-commissioned officers, and men on the right bank of the Imo River were suspended, when affairs assumed such a serious aspect on the German boundary, to allow of the immediate despatch of a force to the disturbed area.

By the beginning of May the rising was crushed, the German rebels driven over the boundary, and order restored.

In October a force composed of 206 officers, non-commissioned officers, and men was sent to the Ekpaffia country to inflict punishment on the natives who had murdered some Calabar traders and who subsequently attacked the District Commissioner. The force met with stubborn resistance and was much

impeded by rain and the swampy nature of the country to be traversed, but by the end of the year the operations were brought to a successful conclusion.

In the same month a patrol was sent through the Irrua country to enquire into inter-tribal complaints, and to disarm the inhabitants. There was sharp fighting at Akindu.

During November a column consisting of 294 officers, non-commissioned officers, and men visited the Affot District; the action was found necessary owing to the attitude of the people towards the Government. Considerable resistance was met with which protracted operations till the end of the year.

In the same month a column consisting of 246 officers, non-commissioned officers, and men left Asaba to traverse the Onitsha hinterland, collect all war guns and establish settled Government. Tribal disputes had resulted in the stoppage of all trade in the district. The column met with little resistance, and there is every probability of bringing about a complete settlement of this little known country.

The total casualties during the year were as follows:—

——	Killed.	Wounded.
European non-commissioned officers ...	2	3
Native soldiers	16	99
Carriers and followers	7	55
Total	25	157

The expenditure for the financial year was £68,891 against £69,508 in the preceding financial year. The cost of the force for the calendar year 1904 was £64,411 2*s*. 6*d*. against £72,497 5*s*. 3*d*. in the preceding calendar year.

A large portion of the Protectorate is still unexplored, and in that portion slave trading and human sacrifice continue, and tribal disputes and wars are of constant occurrence. Hausa traders penetrate far beyond the area under control, but are frequently murdered by the inhabitants.

Intelligence Office.

To enable the Intelligence Officer to supply more reliable topographical information and compile more correct maps for the use of the War Office and the local Government he was furnished with a small staff and a completely equipped office.

The staff consists of a Military Officer who is responsible for its general working and efficiency, a native surveyor and draughtsman, with an assistant, and an apprentice draughtsman.

The office is equipped with field sketching and mathematical drawing instruments, also with appliances for the reproduction of maps, plans, &c., by photographic and lithographic processes.

The work is distributed under three distinct headings:—

(*a.*) Survey, cartography and plan drawing.

(*b.*) Printing by mechanical processes.

(*c.*) Compilation of written intelligence, &c.

During the year 57 sketches of unsurveyed areas were supplied to the authorities in the Protectorate and also sent home for insertion in the new map which is in course of preparation. In all, 400 copies of maps and plans have been prepared and issued, while 234 written reports on roads and other topographical information have been dealt with.

The total cost of the department was £610, which included the pay of the Intelligence Officer for the whole year and that of the remainder of the staff from the 1st April.

CIVIL POLICE.

At the beginning of the year the force numbered 307 of all ranks, the sanctioned strength being 350. At the close of the year it numbered 401 out of a then authorised total of 444. The classification was as follows:—

1	Inspector.
2	Assistant inspectors.
3	Native assistant inspectors.
3	Clerks.
1	Store keeper.
7	Sergeants.
16	Corporals.
17	Lance corporals.
31	Constables (1st class).
57	Constables (2nd class).
262	Constables (3rd class).
1	Instructor.
401	Total.

The force is distributed among 25 stations. At headquarters it performs ordinary police duties and provides guards and escorts; but in outstations the work is of a more varied character, including, as it does, prison duties, the execution of process, and the rendering of assistance to the Customs Preventive branch. The police at Calabar dealt with 493 cases of crime and secured 386 convictions to 107 acquittals. They also investigated 57 cases of alleged crime which were not pressed to a prosecution. Wounding and larceny were the principal offences dealt with.

During the year there were 146 enlistments, 54 dismissals, one desertion and five deaths. Recruits were plentiful but few could read or write or had any knowledge of English. A school has been established, but progress in teaching is much retarded by the fact that few of the recruits speak the same dialect. The men are, however, keen and willing to learn and time will gradually make the task of instruction lighter.

The force is being gradually rearmed with Martini-Enfield in place of Martini-Henry carbines and is frequently exercised in musketry in which fair proficiency is shown.

The strength of the police at Benin City was raised from 27 to 46 in order to relieve the military garrison.

The quarters at Calabar, Benin City, Asaba, and Ifon were materially improved, and the accommodation provided for the various detachments is now adequate and satisfactory.

In recruiting, preference is given to time-expired soldiers.

MINERAL SURVEY.

The Mineral Survey inaugurated in November, 1903, in connection with the Imperial Institute, has up to the present time been confined to the centre of the area embraced by the Kamerun frontier on the east and the Cross River on the west. For purposes of description the region may be termed the Oban Hills. Outside this area a traverse was made northward up the Ewayon River, as far as the entrance of the Moya creek, to investigate the principal geological features and thereby ascertain the probability or the reverse of the occurrence of minerals of economic importance in that country. The Oban Hills consists of crystalline rocks, granites, gneiss, and the like, bounded to the north and south by a variable series of sedimentary beds, such as sandstones, slabs and thin limestones of cretaceous age.

The latter continue up the Ewayon River as far as the survey has ascended. These rocks, in the strictly limited area visited, contain no mineral of value for economic purposes. The best

limestones found contained only some 47 per cent. of lime, and the beds, moreover, are never of any great thickness; as building stones, the materials found, are friable and unsuitable for permanent work. To supplement these inferior rocks a suitable and accessible granite was found, and subsequently opened up by the Public Works Department, a few hundred yards above Uwet. The stone is of excellent quality, and the supply for all practical purposes inexhaustible.

By far the greater part of the work of the survey has been confined to the crytalline rocks of the Oban Hills, and here two districts have been found which afford at least a possibility that future and more detailed work may result in profitable returns for the labour expended.

The first is the tin-bearing district at and to the north of Akwa Ibami; the second is the monazite district in the neighbourhood of Ibum.

The densely forested nature of the country and the extremely complicated arrangement of the drainage systems render the exact determination of the sites of the best deposits a matter of some difficulty in either case, but sufficient work has been done to constrict the more promising areas within reasonably narrow limits. In no case has tin been found in the alluvia of the streams in quantity sufficient to warrant washing the sands, but by trenching the heads of the more promising valleys the veins might be found. The associated rocks consist of biotite granites cut by tourmaline-bearing pegmatites; the latter although apparently valueless are considered as good indicators of the presence of tin. With the exception of tourmaline no accessory minerals are found in the tin concentrates.

Monazite is widely distributed, though usually in very small quantities, over practically the entire district of the Oban Hills excepting the part carrying cassiterite. The localities from which the best concentrates have been obtained are the neighbourhood of the Calabar River to the south of Ibum, where the track from Notim to Ibum crosses it, and to the north west of Ibum, towards Awai Ikuri. The composition of these concentrates is being determined and their commercial value ascertained at the Imperial Institute.

The associated rocks consist of both granite and gneiss of many varieties the majority of which apparently contain monazite, and it is this distribution through a series rather than in one rock alone which has probably determined the wide distribution of the mineral, and which, at the same time, militate against the occurrence of a constantly rich deposit over a considerable area.

Traces of gold are not rare, but it is highly improbable that any quantity of importance will be found in the district so

far examined. Masses of quartz are exceedingly common but up to the present have proved worthless.

A first report on the more important results of the survey has been made by Professor Dunstan.

The detailed geological reports of the surveyors were accompanied by sketch maps made by Mr. L. H. L. Huddart, B.A., H.R.S.M., some of which have appeared in the Government Gazette.

ADMINISTRATION.

Staff.

Mr. Walter Egerton, C.M.G., was appointed High Commissioner of this Protectorate and assumed the Government on 2nd April, 1904. During the interval that lapsed between the departure of Sir Ralph Moor, K.C.M.G., and the arrival of Mr. Egerton—a period of 14 months—the administration of the Protectorate was carried on by Mr. Leslie Probyn, C.M.G. (who has since been appointed to the Government of Sierra Leone),and afterwards by Mr. W. F. W. Fosbery, the Senior Divisional Commissioner.

In September Mr. Egerton received the appointment of Governor of Lagos in addition to that of High Commissioner for Southern Nigeria as a first step towards the amalgamation of the two territories which is now in course of being carried out in detail.

In connection with this scheme a new office styled Senior Provincial Commissioner was created. This post will ultimately be held by Mr. J. J. Thorburn, transferred from the Ceylon Civil Service, who for the present discharges the duties of Secretary to the Government of Southern Nigeria.

During the year under review the European staff was increased from 192 in 1903 to 212 or roughly speaking by 10 per cent. As new areas are brought under more direct control it becomes necessary to provide a larger administrative staff, and many years must elapse before finality is reached in this respect.

The creation of a Road Department under an engineer with experience in road surveying and construction through tropical forests was effected and the most beneficial results are looked for from this measure.

In order to supply the demand for accurate trade statistics, and more especially information as to new sources of trade which may be tapped in the near future, a Commercial Intelligence Officer was appointed. It would be difficult to over-rate the importance of this office or the magnitude of the results that may be achieved if, as is anticipated, it is possible for him to collate such facts and figures as may induce British

merchants whose operations are now confined to the fringe of the Protectorate to push further afield and emulate the growing enterprise of the German trader. If the interior is by this means opened up to civilizing influences the moral and material gain will be enormous. Mr. Birtwistle, the officer appointed, did not however arrive until April, 1905, so that further reference to his work falls beyond the period covered by the present report.

A "Civil Service List" for the Protectorate was compiled by Mr. H. Bedwell, Chief Assistant Secretary, which is proposed to expand hereafter into a Year Book, similar to that issued by the Government of Jamaica.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Seven new districts have been created. Aka and Ikot-Ekpene have been added to the Calabar Division. The Eastern Division has been enlarged by the addition of the Ekpaffia District. The Central Division has gained by the annexation of the Oka District, the subjugation of which opens up communication with the rich rubber-growing country of Anambra. The Kwale, Agbor, and Ishan Districts have been assigned to the Central Division. These new districts were all finally brought under control during the dry season operations of the year under review but only Ikot-Ekpene station was opened in 1904.

General condition.—The general condition of the people is one of *dolce far niente* comfort. They are not inclined to look far ahead, and are not content to live from hand to mouth, a mental attitude which is easily intelligible although it is discouraging to the Government which aims at the introduction of a civilization which will undoubtedly make the life of the native more strenuous as it becomes more luxurious.

The native courts, it is gratifying to find, are doing excellent work and fostering among the people an interest in their local affairs.

Considering the enormous population there is little crime, and as a rule the native admits his guilt, in striking contrast to the tactics of accused persons in other countries.

The people are typical of the country in that they are mentally undeveloped and afford an enormous field for the efforts of the pioneers of civilization. They are free from direct taxation; they live in comfort and have few or no cares. On the whole their lot is a happy one.

APPENDICES.

APPEN

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the PRINCIPAL ARTICLES
the corresponding period in

Ad va

Articles.	Twelve Months ended December 31st, 1901.			Twelve months December 31st,
	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	Quantity.	Value.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Beads	packages 1,646	8,451 12 9	734 13 5	packages 1,974	8,224 0 3
Beef and pork	4,347	8,897 9 7	541 14 4	4,111	9,946 17 2
Brass and copperware ..	960	3,153 5 9	225 19 6	2,317	4,183 6 6
Bread and biscuits ..	lbs. 1,172,375	5,165 3 2	412 17 3	lbs. 1,157,284	5,439 11 2
Building materials ..	packages 34,864	5,388 2 3	483 13 4	packages 35,308	6,600 17 9
Coals	tons 10,378	14,593 0 0	541 6 11	tons 17,497	24,960 10 10
Chemicals and drugs ..	packages 2,291	7,409 17 2	501 4 0	packages 2,248	6,804 2 8
Cotton goods	27,304	265,059 18 0	23,137 3 7	23,109	244,023 1 11
Earthenware	2,610	9,207 7 0	737 11 7	2,514	6,704 12 2
Fish, salted and cured ..	899	913 0 11	85 16 4	1,208	1,064 12 5
Flour	565	568 8 11	50 17 5	546	549 18 5
Furniture	3,635	13,250 9 3	859 1 1	2,858	9,553 6 5
Glassware	746	1,909 9 4	156 16 9	757	1,785 4 4
Haberdashery	435	2,579 15 4	209 1 5	214	1,546 13 4
Hardware and cutlery ..	78,589	69,961 5 3	4,485 14 6	104,000	72,589 17 8
Jewellery and plate ..	173	1,802 3 2	150 1 7	176	1,155 4 11
Leather goods	892	5,801 8 6	252 7 8	678	4,247 11 0
Perfumery	725	1,657 7 0	146 13 5	926	2,338 14 3
Pipes— Smoking	dozen 168,060	1,774 17 0	157 19 2	dozen 322,995	2,874 0 8
Provisions	packages 32,951	44,729 5 5	3,048 17 4	packages 29,032	38,682 10 5
Rice	cwts. 53,159	23,185 7 7	1,491 4 11	cwts. 50,325	19,565 16 11
Silk goods	packages 583	15,452 14 8	1,253 6 4	packages 518	11,277 5 8
Soap	87,640	9,417 13 6	800 8 1	107,587	11,054 19 9
Stationery	1,817	5,234 11 4	186 15 7	1,269	4,729 0 4
Umbrellas	587	6,830 14 3	617 10 8	616	6,732 19 10
Wearing apparel	3,341	38,225 0 7	2,004 5 0	2,566	25,517 2 10
Woollen goods	1,198	12,142 10 11	982 4 6	826	10,608 2 9
Other articles	—	82,206 1 1	3,819 12 4	—	65,198 19 4
Total Commercial Imports.	—	549,667 6 1	48,074 17 6	—	514,651 8 4
Total Government Imports.	—	115,213 13 7	—	—	93,307 13 4
Total "Ad valorem" Imports.	—	664,880 19 8	48,074 17 6	—	607,959 1 8

DIX A.

of IMPORT for the Year ended DECEMBER 31st, 1904, with the THREE preceding years.

lorem.

ended 1902.		Twelve months ended December 31st, 1903.			Twelve months ended December 31st, 1904.		
Duty.		Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.
£ s. d		packages	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	packages	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
820 9 0		1,459	6,456 12 10	647 13 8	1,590	9,342 2 2	923 3 8
648 19 6		3,990	9,297 12 11	569 17 3	5,664	10,795 13 3	729 11 10
385 2 6		1,147	2,871 4 1	235 0 5	2,116	4,658 1 5	434 18 3
482 5 0		lbs. 1,306,439	6,079 15 4	535 17 5	lbs. 1,558,927	7,514 7 3	659 5 0
660 10 1		packages 57,437	9,616 11 6	967 7 11	packages 44,363	8,262 11 2	837 7 3
549 0 0		tons 14,326	16,527 8 8	643 4 4	tons 9,949	11,735 12 9	392 10 1
551 0 2		packages 2,804	6,980 13 6	561 16 8	packages 3,411	9,804 18 10	771 14 7
24,380 5 2		29,704	295,481 2 3	20,512 14 4	57,366	356,976 2 0	35,567 14 1
614 13 0		2,516	6,769 6 1	652 19 5	4,695	8,739 7 4	848 0 6
106 9 0		2,136	1,994 3 3	199 8 3	3,658	2,844 6 1	284 8 6
53 19 6		2,496	2,347 19 1	201 3 7	3,008	2,716 12 6	271 4 3
388 16 4		2,409	6,910 13 0	453 3 5	2,146	6,103 9 0	515 11 10
129 2 5		1,057	1,836 18 8	162 11 3	1,129	1,855 12 9	162 10 8
152 14 11		218	1,124 7 9	111 14 8	283	1,502 19 6	147 18 11
4,476 3 5		106,639	62,187 16 8	4,901 3 2	147,674	73,377 18 2	6,120 5 3
106 14 0		162	970 14 7	96 9 11	206	973 18 3	89 3 4
329 7 0		591	3,942 19 1	223 18 7	1,008	6,459 12 1	354 15 9
233 18 3		830	1,844 8 4	183 19 8	1,373	3,082 7 2	307 7 0
287 9 3		dozen 190,539	2,104 19 10	210 12 4	dozen 223,764	2,563 13 11	256 9 4
3,526 0 6		packages 26,363	40,494 4 2	3,893 17 11	packages 32,998	47,195 15 8	4,633 9 7
1,561 9 6		cwts. 45,223	20,077 19 8	1,599 4 7	cwts. 69,975	30,966 13 3	2,491 19 5
1,120 5 8		packages 683	10,944 3 2	1,094 7 2	packages 1,116	19,223 4 7	1,877 16 0
1,073 4 2		95,342	11,364 12 1	1,076 11 4	126,476	14,024 12 4	1,349 9 0
216 5 2		1,467	5,619 17 3	193 11 2	1,783	6,631 12 11	256 9 4
656 13 11		699	5,829 16 8	573 9 2	999	10,943 7 2	1,087 3 8
2,427 13 9		3,087	30,246 16 11	2,819 13 9	4,321	43,768 3 5	4,083 13 7
1,050 7 2		1,296	9,548 13 0	944 6 5	782	12,786 15 4	1,242 2 9
4,036 16 6		—	44,407 13 10	3,033 3 7	—	38,838 0 4	2,851 18 11
51,285 14 10		—	564,440 18 3	56,299 1 4	—	696,106 12 3	69,548 2 4
—		—	59,438 5 11	—	—	57,880 18 4	—
51,285 14 10		—	623,879 4 2	56,299 1 4	—	753,987 10 7	69,548 2 4

Spe

Articles.	Twelve months ended December 31st, 1901.			Twelve months December 31st,	
	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	Quantity.	Value.
	dozen.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	dozen.	£ s. d.
Aërated waters	35,154	5,403 17 7	289 8 6	25,731	3,880 5 2
	dozen quarts.			dozen quarts.	
Ale, beer, porter and cider.	3,874	1,052 18 2	140 2 0	3,774	947 3 7
	dozen pints.			dozen pints.	
Ale, beer, porter and cider.	17,466	2,918 11 8	319 15 2	22,461	3,786 9 10
	imperial gallons.			imperial gallons.	
Ale, beer, porter and cider.	308	31 7 11	5 15 10	747	66 1 11
	No.			No.	
Cigars and cigarettes ..	2,050,000	2,165 4 2	238 11 6	2,454,000	2,671 8 10
	cwts.			cwts.	
Cowries	9,846	3,919 2 11	492 6 0	17,312	7,616 2 0
Firearms—	No.			No.	
Guns (Dane)	8,745	3,370 9 4	1,093 2 6	6,453	2,318 0 4
Guns (other than Dane).	275	4,250 15 5	32 5 0	649	4,350 5 6
Revolvers and pistols	151	442 9 3	12 7 6	114	317 16 5
	lbs.			lbs.	
Gunpowder	222,402	3,032 1 5	5,555 1 0	591,990	8,167 2 1
	imperial gallons.			imperial gallons.	
Kerosene and all lamp oils.	201,268	5,744 15 7	1,550 8 10	263,545	6,896 18 5
	tons.			tons.	
Salt	18,319	26,412 4 3	18,293 0 0	21,171	31,806 2 2
	imperial gallons.			imperial gallons.	
Spirits—					
Brandy	1,145	1,021 15 5	137 8 0	1,039	787 17 4
Gin	1,332,433	117,604 1 5	191,509 19 0	1,542,134	139,981 13 7
Liqueurs	2,789	556 10 7	416 1 0	740	233 14 8
Rum	199,936	9,217 10 6	29,890 13 0	179,751	7,978 10 4
Whisky	12,770	5,289 2 11	1,782 6 0	15,647	6,501 16 6
Unenumerated	2,962	2,290 19 5	416 1 7	3,094	2,535 11 0
	cwts.			cwts.	
Sugar	7,620	4,511 1 2	209 18 6	4,950	4,627 0 6
Tobacco—	lbs.			lbs.	
Manufactured	4,233	518 7 10	115 4 4	4,477	519 10 11
Unmanufactured ..	2,085,548	62,483 18 5	44,759 2 8	3,276,520	77,880 9 8
	imperial gallons.			imperial gallons.	
Wines—					
Claret	4,950	1,175 11 3	242 6 0	5,762	1,264 0 8
Other kinds	5,209	1,932 11 8	494 2 0	5,355	2,059 0 6
Sparkling	2,064	3,520 13 8	227 8 0	1,393	2,396 2 9
Other articles	—	8,938 7 0	596 13 10	—	3,518 12 11
Total Commercial Imports.	—	264,794 1 11	298,821 7 9	—	318,112 11 9
Total Government Imports.	—	13,010 7 0	—	—	4,975 5 10
Total Specific Imports.	—	277,804 8 11	298,821 7 9	—	323,087 17 7

cific.

ended. 1902.	Twelve months ended December 31st, 1903.			Twelve months ended December 31st, 1904.		
Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.
£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
214 12 1	dozen. 30,072	4,155 10 9	250 12 0	dozen. 32,677·93	4,558 16 8	272 11 9
140 18 6	dozen quarts. 4,127	998 12 10	153 12 0	dozen quarts. 2,819·41	738 8 11	105 8 7
421 3 7	dozen pints. 18,355	3,004 13 7	344 3 7	dozen pints. 25,602·3	4,178 18 9	477 18 10
14 0 7	imperial gallons. 358	29 16 11	6 14 10	imperial gallons. 88	11 13 4	1 13 6
249 3 0	No. 3,043,600	3,204 9 10	313 9 0	No. 4,152,890	3,872 14 0	398 11 9
865 12 0	cwts. 2 307	2,875 3 0	135 7 0	cwts. 6,286	3,512 15 8	314 6 0
791 12 6	No 7,167	2,698 13 1	910 17 6	No. 8 530	2,997 13 5	1,06[illegible] 5 0
38 0 0	2,380	8,638 1 1	42 15 0	2,419	5,880 13 7	154 5 0
10 10 0	246	998 2 0	7 5 0	245	1,079 0 1	7 2 6
16,014 3 0	lbs. 226,790	2,902 15 6	5,669 15 0	lbs. 939,276	12,258 18 0	23,412 13 0
2 079 6 6	imperial gallons. 291,238	8,576 17 3	2,269 0 6	imperial gallons. 378,126·80	12,563 15 8	2,922 2 4
21,161 0 0	tons. 21 367	32,422 3 1	21,259 0 0	tons. 510,055·60	38,564 11 3	25,499 5 9
134 2 0	imperial gallons. 1,105	1,028 9 11	164 5 0	imperial gallons. 1,055·96	961 5 3	144 12 0
227.222 8 0	1,455,664	134,271 4 7	226,327 1 0	1,866,818·58	176,152 16 5	278,586 4 9
94 10 0	1,665	520 10 2	266 5 0	569·04	199 11 6	85 3 2
27,046 4 0	201,806	8,992 5 10	30,334 7 0	265,178·15	14,516 9 6	39,855 10 7
2,329 10 0	18,406	7,709 15 2	2,749 16 0	20,224·91	8,649 12 1	3,015 8 10
445 7 0	2,510	1,937 8 8	345 6 0	3,012 085	1,865 14 8	428 19 8
226 5 0	cwts. 3,590	3,451 5 11	168 2 0	cwts. 6,607·449	6,394 9 11	330 7 11
149 4 8	lbs. 4,858	703 5 7	157 18 8	lbs. 5,470	809 3 11	182 6 2
54,079 12 4	3,001 486	70,579 15 7	50,155 4 4	3,826,565·1	85,351 14 0	63,823 17 8
298 2 0	imperial gallons. 3,038	852 12 8	151 12 0	imperial gallons. 6,226	1,402 10 11	311 6 3
529 16 8	6,508	2,196 4 6	645 6 4	8,263·49	2,420 9 9	816 1 3
203 14 0	1,798	2,947 13 2	266 17 0	1,[illegible]07·77	3,099 3 8	271 9 6
559 19 9	—	10,341 19 0	752 3 1	—	8,309 10 4	851 17 1
355,318 17 2	—	301,692 18 0	343 846 14 10	—	392,456 5 1	443,335 8 10
—	—	14,344 11 8	—	—	7,894 6 2	—
355,318 17 2	—	316,037 9 8	343,846 14 10	—	400,350 11 3	443,335 8 10

Summary of Imports.

Articles.	Twelve months ended December 31st, 1901.		Twelve months ended December 31st, 1902.		Twelve months ended December 31st, 1903.		Twelve months ended December 31st, 1904.	
	Value.	Duty.	Value.	Duty.	Value.	Duty.	Value.	Duty.
Commercial—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Ad valorem	549,667 6 1	48,074 17 6	514,851 8 4	51,285 14 10	564,440 18 3	56,299 1 4	696,106 12 3	69,548 2 4
Specific	284,794 1 11	298,821 7 9	318,112 11 9	355,318 17 2	301,692 18 0	343,846 14 10	392,456 5 1	443,335 8 10
Free	122,527 19 10	—	137,194 11 10	—	212,278 8 5	—	305,979 5 3	—
Government Imports	360,126 14 0*	—	276,522 17 10*	—	186,256 12 6	—	160,187 14 1	—
Specie—								
Commercial	—	—	—	—	26,079 2 8	—	42,238 19 9	—
Government	—	—	—	—	202,000 0 0	—	195,500 0 0	—
From Lagos	—	—	—	—	—		—	—
Total Imports	1,297,116 1 10	346,896 5 3	1,246,481 9 9	406,604 12 0	1,492,747 19 10	400,145 16 2	1,792,468 16 5	512,883 11 2

* Including specie.

APPENDIX B.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the PRINCIPAL ARTICLES of EXPORT for the year ended DECEMBER 31st, 1904, with corresponding period of the THREE preceding years.

Articles.	Twelve months ended December 31st, 1901.		Twelve months ended December 31st, 1902.		Twelve months ended December 31st, 1903.		Twelve months ended December 31st, 1904.		Remarks.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
Benniseed .. .. .. lbs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	..	—	
Cocoa .. .. "	230,726	3,138 18 0	302,305	3,676 12 3	288,614	3,652 14 0	367,728	4,981 10 5	
Coffee .. .. "	34,131	300 3 10	20,825	236 11 4	50,342	524 4 8	41,633	301 9 2	
Cola (Kola) Nuts .. .. pkgs.	4	14 7 6	29	63 0 0	15	15 0 9	44	49 2 6	
Cotton, Raw .. .. .. lbs.	—	—	—	—	123	1 0 6	285,639	2,501 8 7	
Ebony .. .. tons	1,303	6,009 10 4	1,065	3,527 17 9	1,048	3,742 13 2	321	1,179 11 6	
Fibre .. .. pkgs.	5,176	3,184 15 4	4,886	2,845 15 2	5,685	3,226 2 8	5,781	3,678 3 10	
Gum Copal and Gum Arabic .. .. .. lbs.	8,103	115 1 11	806,216	9,064 13 11	671,100	6,443 8 10	631,568	5,408 2 9	
Ground-nuts .. .. .. cwt.	4,196	1,202 8 11	6,432	1,917 13 9	9,363	2,732 1 5	15,414	4,998 17 2	
Hides .. .. No.	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	0 15 0	
Ivory .. .. lbs.	39,448	10,995 5 8	32,622	9,629 17 5	18,274	5,735 8 10	11,763	3,468 5 5	
Lumber (Native Timber) supr. ft.	128,622	11,228 16 8	164,630	13,235 1 6	460,446	32,027 14 0	Cubic ft. 642,545 / 8,767 logs.	59,132 19 0	Export duty, £11,300 6 4
Manioc .. .. lbs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,708	7 12 6	
Oils, Medicinal (Sandal Wood, &c.) .. .. pkgs	Included in other products		Included in other products		Included in other products		2,559	3,750 2 6	
Palm Kernels .. .. .. tons	56,871	437,092 10 10	57,140	453,084 19 0	68,330	526,738 1 2	70,500	597,953 8 9	
Palm Oil .. .. .. Impl. galls.	12,590,349	606,011 8 0	12,726,720	625,151 0 9	12,018,075	629,708 17 11	13,628,783	710,055 15 9	
Rubber .. .. lbs.	1,740,156	106,924 15 5	865,834	46,945 14 7	1,177,803	61,815 11 2	2,408,926	158,930 14 10	
Shea Butter .. .. .. tons	Included in other products		Included in other products		Included in other products		164	3,714 11 5	
Other Products	—	31,823 16 6	—	26,695 14 5	—	33,786 11 0	—	25,533 15 11	
Foreign Goods	—	35,664 1 11	—	58,651 13 11	—	121,834 16 3	—	133,010 1 3	
		1,253,706 0 10	—	1,254,696 5 9	—	1,431,984 6 4	—	1,718,716 18 3	

APPENDIX C.

Shipping Table.

1901.

Flag.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Steam—						
British ..	226	250,197	1,265,767 1 8	218	247,567	1,194,856 6 8
German ..	26	32,507	31,349 0 2	28	37,973	59,094 11 2
French ..	2	2,282		2	2,282	
Sail—						
American ..	1	610	Included in value of Steam Vessels.	1	610	Included in value of Steam Vessels.
Total ..	255	285,596	1,297,116 1 10	249	288,432	1,253,706 0 10

1902.

Flag.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Steam—						
British ..	260	304,236	1,149,860 7 8	253	296,157	1,096,925 4 4
German ..	42	55,310	96,621 2 1	41	53,877	157,771 1 5
French ..	1	1,236		1	1,236	
Dutch ..	2	22		2	22	
Norwegian..	1	724		1	724	
Sail—						
British ..	4	1,404	Included in value of Steam Vessels.	4	1,404	Included in value of Steam Vessels.
American ..	1	570		1	570	
Swedish ..	1	403		1	403	
Spanish ..	1	6		1	6	
Total ..	313	363,911	1,246,481 9 9	305	354,399	1,254,696 5 9

1903.

Flag.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Steam— British ..	298	374,886	1,382,504 4 2	292	363,492	1,190,411 8 3
German ..	71	68,946	110,243 15 8	70	68,800	241,572 18 1
French ..	3	4,717		3	4,717	
Norwegian..	3	2,340		3	2,340	
Dutch ..	1	11		1	11	
Sail— British ..	3	797	Included in value of Steam Vessels.	3	797	Included in value of Steam Vessels.
Total ..	379	451,677	1,492,747 19 10	372	445,157	1,431,984 6 4

1904.

Flag.	Entered.			Cleared		
	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Steam— British ..	349	444,134	1,651,447 15 0	352	444,904	1,509,190 3 11
German ..	95	90,548	141,021 1 5	94	88,280	209,526 14 4
Norwegian	1	683		1	683	
Danish ..	1	729		1	729	
Sail— British ..	4	1,946	Included in value of steam vessels.	3	955	Included in value of steam vessels.
Portuguese..	1	60		1	60	
Total ..	451	538,100	1,792,468 16 5	452	535,611	1,718,716 18 5

APPENDIX D.

Returns of Telegrams Despatched from the various Telegraph Offices during the period 11th May to 31st December, 1904.

Station.	May.		June.		July.		August.		September.		October.		November.		December.		Total.		Receipts.		
	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	£	s.	d.
Benin	—	—	30	15	3	13	4	15	20	19	9	17	9	29	16	12	91	120	9	7	5
Bonny ...	85	44	117	68	129	74	85	24	103	63	115	43	132	50	119	56	885	422	25	8	9
Calabar ...	78	52	154	74	94	77	87	59	224	75	255	69	231	79	160	79	1,283	564	32	14	11
Egwanga ...	18	36	51	57	50	66	67	32	68	54	101	58	94	48	86	64	535	415	37	3	1
Eket	2	14	15	10	11	19	10	10	20	12	20	15	48	10	28	7	154	97	5	13	11
Forcados ...	—	—	10	19	17	5	8	2	42	56	46	87	43	91	67	102	233	362	26	15	5
	183	146	377	243	304	254	261	142	477	279	546	289	557	307	476	320	3,181	1,980	137	3	6

APPENDIX D1.

Returns of TELEGRAMS RECEIVED at the various Telegraph Offices during the period 11th MAY to 31st DECEMBER, 1904.

Station.	May.		June.		July.		August.		September.		October.		November.		December.		Total.	
	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.
Benin	—	—	33	15	2	9	2	4	15	7	6	12	8	17	13	14	79	78
Bonny	88	57	157	106	97	105	79	55	195	110	200	98	199	101	161	110	1,176	742
Calabar... ...	74	54	197	75	167	90	128	65	244	75	244	70	294	70	211	67	1,559	566
Egwanga ...	29	52	43	59	51	95	41	44	75	65	88	67	87	63	54	77	468	522
Eket	12	11	11	11	8	22	27	8	42	12	58	11	65	13	45	6	268	94
Forcados ...	—	—	17	13	8	8	5	8	55	54	46	65	57	71	97	46	285	265
	203	174	458	279	333	329	282	184	626	323	642	323	710	335	581	320	3,835	2,267

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
428	Bahamas	1903–1904
429	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1903
430	Mauritius	,,
431	Seychelles	,,
432	Barbados	1903–1904
433	Southern Nigeria	1903
434	Fiji	,,
435	Straits Settlements	,,
436	Grenada	,,
437	Northern Nigeria	,,
438	Jamaica	1903–1904
439	Malta	,,
440	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1902–1903 & 1903–1904
441	British Guiana	1903–1904
442	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
443	St. Lucia...	,,
444	Basutoland	,,
445	Leeward Islands	,,
446	St. Vincent	,,
447	Bermuda...	1904
448	St. Helena	,,
449	Falkland Islands	,,
450	Weihaiwei	,,
451	Hong Kong	,,
452	Gambia	,,
453	Gibraltar...	,,
454	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
455	British Honduras	,,
456	Seychelles	,,
457	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
458	Straits Settlements	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies... ...	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone ...	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 507.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA (LAGOS).

REPORT FOR 1905.

(For Report for 1904, *see* No. 470.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1906.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

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1906.

[Cd. 2684-53.] *Price* 10*d.*

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No. 507.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA (LAGOS).

(For Report for 1904, *see* No. 470.)

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Governor's Rest House,

Ibadan,

13th September, 1906.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the usual report on the Administration of this Colony for the calendar year 1905.

2. The report shows steady progress. The points to which I would invite particular attention are:—

(i.) The commencement of the serious construction of roads suitable for vehicular traffic. Until last year there was no road, even in the town of Lagos, that was suitable for wheel traffic. At the time of writing the Oyo-Ibadan road, in the interior of the Protectorate, has been completed, and I recently motored over the distance of 35 miles in a little over two hours.

(ii.) The development of two new industries—cotton and maize. The exports of maize are rapidly increasing, and the output of cotton is at present only limited by the capabilities of the Cotton Association's ginneries. I begin to feel great confidence that cotton-growing will prove the chief industry in Nigeria outside the palm oil zone.

I have, &c.,

W. EGERTON,

Governor.

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Elgin, K.G.,

&c., &c., &c.

1125 Wt 23907 11/06 D & S 5 26166 A 2

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1905.

FINANCIAL.

The latest accounts for the Colony were made up for the nine months—1st April to 31st December, 1905—and not as hitherto—to 31st March, 1906—to enable the financial year in future to coincide with the calendar year. For the calendar year 1905, a total sum of £379,684 was collected under the various heads of revenue against expenditure, amounting to £414,633. The revenue and expenditure for the calendar year 1904 were £338,124 and £325,188 respectively.

REVENUE.

2. The revenue collected from all sources during the calendar year 1905, as compared with the five previous years, is given in the following statement:—

LAGOS (WESTERN PROVINCE).

Comparative Statement of Revenue.

—	Actual Revenue for 1900 Calendar Year.	Actual Revenue for 1901 Calendar Year.	Actual Revenue for 1902 Calendar Year.	Actual Revenue for 1903 Calendar Year.	Actual Revenue for 1904 Calendar Year.	Actual Revenue for 1905 Calendar Year.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	190,701	215,924	285,543	260,796	253,862	263,287
Harbour and Light House Dues	806	819	924	1,005	1,542	1,698
Licences and Internal Revenue	6,868	7,328	7,940	8,718	8,749	8,421
Fees of Court or Office.. ..	4,510	4,461	10,062	5,960	6,452	8,518
Postal Revenue	1,558	1,902	2,314	2,673	3,638	3,932
Rent of Government Property	410	418	495	592	483	506*
Interest on Investments ..	2,217	2,201	2,265	2,266	2,321	11,782
Miscellaneous	1,938	3,957	3,638	1,720	874	5,469
Total exclusive of Land Sales	209,038	237,010	313,181	283,730	277,921	303,613
Land Sales	167	220	187	2,113	1,199	1,685*
Total	209,205	237,230	313,368	285,843	279,120	305,298
Railway and Tramway ..	—	1,326	50,786	47,527	59,004	74,386
Total	209,205	238,556	364,154	333,370	338,124	379,684

* £1,200 erroneously credited in Colonial Accounts to Rent of Government Property is here transferred to Land Sales.

From the above statement it will be seen that the ordinary revenue (excluding railway) of 1905 exceeded that of 1904 by £26,178, and all heads contributed to this appreciation except "Licences" which remained stationary.

The receipts from the railway and tramway realized £74,386, an increase of £15,382 over 1904. The total receipts for 1905

were £41,560 over those for 1904, and £170,481 more than those for the year 1900, when no railway existed.

3. Customs duties, £263,387.—The increase in 1905 over 1904 amounted to £9,425, which was due entirely to the recovery in January, 1905, of £12,285 of uncollected revenue for previous years. But for this windfall there would have been a fall of £2,860 in Customs receipts under the previous year notwithstanding that the Customs tariff was altered in 1905, whereby the duty on imported spirits was raised.

This decrease in receipts is accounted for by the large diminution in the quantity of spirits imported for consumption during 1905; these importations have been steadily decreasing during the last three years:—

1903.		1904.		1905.	
Gallons.	Duty.	Gallons.	Duty.	Gallons.	Duty.
	£		£		£
1,085,820	159,817	1,043,740	155,566	783,159	151,288

4. Harbour and Lighthouse Dues for 1905 showed an appreciation over the previous year of £156, and amounted to £1,698.

5. Licences and Internal Revenue.—The actual receipts for 1905 were £8,421, or £328 less than in 1904, and call for no special comment. There were less spirit licences issued.

6. Fees of Court or Office, £8,518.—This amount is an increase of £2,066 over the 1904 receipts under this head. The increased receipts in 1905 are due to the increase in receipts earned by Government undertakings, Government vessels, ice-making plant, &c., and general increases under most sub-heads.

7. Postal revenue.—The total collected was £3,932, or an increase of £294 over last year, due to the increase in portion of the population corresponding through the post office, and availing themselves of the facilities offered by the money order and postal order services. This source of revenue should continue steadily to improve.

8. Five hundred and six pounds was received during 1905 for "Rent of Government Property" against £483 in the year previously.

9. Interest, £11,782.—During the year £9,243 was received as interest from Crown Agents on portion of loan funds, raised during the year, and lent at interest. This accounts for the increase of £9,461 in receipts during the year 1905, under this head as compared with 1904, when the receipts amounted to £2,321.

10. Miscellaneous.—The sum of £5,469 was collected under this head as against £874 in the previous year. The increased receipts in 1905 are attributable to the refund during the year by the Gold Coast Colony of the amount due by them for the expenses of officers and men lent to that Colony during the Ashanti operations some years previously.

11. Receipts under land sales, &c., amounted to £1,685 against £1,199 in 1904. This increase is due to an amount of £1,200 received as premia on reclaimed land leased by the Government.

12. Railway and Tramway, £74,386.—This amount is £15,382 more than the receipts for 1904, when they were £59,004, and indicate that the advantages of the railway are becoming more widely known and appreciated. With the extension of the railway to Oshogbo, receipts from the railway are anticipated to show considerable improvement in coming years.

Legislation.

13. The following changes have taken place, connected with the Customs tariff, during the year 1905:—

(i.) Ordinance No. 1, of 1905, which came into operation from 1st March, 1905, amended "The Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1905," by providing:—

(*a*) for the omission of the words "inland navigation or overland carriage" from Section 5 of the principal Ordinance, so that drawback of the duty paid is not allowed on goods shipped to Southern Nigeria, such goods are placed on transire, and duty is not again collected in Southern Nigeria;

(*b*) for the duty on spirits, the strength of which can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer, and which does not exceed 12½ degrees under proof by such hydrometer, to be charged at 3*s*. 6*d*. the imperial gallon, and for every degree, or part of a degree, in excess of that strength an additional duty of ½*d*. the imperial gallon, instead of at 3*s*. the imperial gallon at proof;

(*c*) for the charging of duty of 4*s*. instead of 3*s*. on sweetened spirits;

(*d*) for the exemption from duty of oil of any kind imported for use as a motor power for engines or machinery of any kind, and not for lighting purposes, and subject to any regulation made in that behalf by the Governor in Council.

(ii.) By an Order in Council of 29th March, all transit fees on Porto Novo goods were abolished, except in the case of gunpowder, flint-lock guns, and petroleum, on which duty is paid on first importation;

(iii.) By an Order in Council of 29th August, the duty on firearms was increased to 5*s*. each, and rice in the husk, manure of all kinds, wheeled vehicles of every description, and saddlery and harness were exempted from payment of duty.

14. Connected with the change of tariff it may be mentioned that the free storage in the Customs warehouses by an Order in Council of 6th December was reduced from seven days to 72 hours, exclusive of Sundays and public holidays.

EXPENDITURE.

15. The expenditure for the calendar year 1905, compared with the five previous calendar years, is given in the subjoined table:—

LAGOS (WESTERN PROVINCE).

Comparative Statement of Expenditure.

—	Actual Expenditure 1900 Calendar Year.	Actual Expenditure 1901 Calendar Year.	Actual Expenditure 1902 Calendar Year.	Actual Expenditure 1903 Calendar Year.	Actual Expenditure 1904 Calendar Year.	Actual Expenditure 1905 Calendar Year.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Charge on Account of Public Debt.	29,294	48,558	51,376	52,618	55,008	57,945
Pensions and Gratuities ..	3,283	3,582	5,339	5,024	5,302	6,045
Governor	4,995	5,691	5,343	6,223	5,359	4,187
Colonial Secretariat	3,782	2,927	3,672	3,564	4,029	4,027
Interior	10,225	9,676	8,547	9,942	11,166	18,145
Attorney-General	817	939	841	979	899	1,116
Treasury	2,493	1,994	3,982	3,551	4,258	4,703
Customs	7,437	6,049	5,875	5,721	5,601	8,008
" Special	—	17	—	—	—	—
Audit Office	1,237	1,441	1,223	1,168	1,557	1,611
Marine Department	11,245	10,945	10,592	11,257	12,374	16,516
" " Special ..	1,522	1	39	862	—	—
Judicial Establishment ..	6,953	7,375	8,241	8,226	9,404	5,447
Lagos Battalion—W.A.F. Force	22,225	29,814	19,177	27,467	25,480	24,380
Police	13,140	15,486	14,699	15,731	15,700	17,091
Prison	2,988	3,126	3,022	3,317	2,993	3,176
Medical	11,621	13,627	14,823	15,432	17,003	19,880
Registrar-General	327	84	—	—	—	—
Transport	6,832	1,416	—	—	—	—
Educational	2,764	3,640	3,960	2,884	3,587	3,273
Miscellaneous	4,045	4,396	4,770	4,319	5,054	7,047
Post Office	1,764	1,659	1,822	2,024	2,189	2,605
Printing Office	1,054	1,101	1,092	1,404	1,177	1,557
Agricultural and Forests ..	2,263	3,172	3,541	3,531	4,671	7,680
Laboratory	763	664	690	623	682	658
Land and Survey	1,932	2,413	3,081	3,113	3,515	4,291
Rent	621	776	798	1,011	998	966
Charitable	352	281	240	268	303	416
Sanitary Board of Health ..	2,718	2,681	2,809	2,930	3,640	*1,614
Public Works	11,167	12,343	10,622	11,967	14,380	16,086
" " Recurrent ..	7,334	10,456	7,778	13,392	19,861	23,660
	177,193	206,330	197,994	218,548	236,190	262,130
" " Extraordinary	23,145	14,667	9,787	28,485	35,204	64,310
Marine—Extraordinary ..	—	—	—	—	—	6,527
Contribution to Northern Nigeria.	—	—	—	—	—	†21,250
Railway, Tramway, and Bridges.	—	3,930	17,709	63,057	53,794	60,416
	200,338	224,927	225,490	310,090	325,188	414,633

* Greater part of expenditure under this head now included under Public Works.
† £10,000 of this amount was on account of contribution for previous years.

16. The ordinary expenditure for 1905 was £262,130, and the extraordinary expenditure (including a contribution to Northern Nigeria of £21,250 and railway expenditure) was £152,503, making a total of £414,633 for the year. The ordinary expenditure for 1904 was £236,190, and the extraordinary (including railway) £88,998. There was therefore a total increase in the 1905 expenditure over 1904 of £89,445, of which £25,940 was on account of ordinary and £63,505 extraordinary expenditure. Of the latter increase, £21,250 represents the contribution to Northern Nigeria, and £6,527 marine extraordinary expenditure, neither of which heads appeared in the 1904 accounts.

17. The total for the year 1905 (£414,633) exceeded the total receipts (£379,684) by £34,949, owing to estimate of Customs revenue not being realized on account of the large falling off in the importation of spirits.

18. The increase of £2,937 under the head "Charge on account of public debt" was consequent on the issue of the new loan of £2,000,000 to enable the repayment of the Imperial loan and other temporary advances to be effected, and to provide funds for the further extension of the railway—which has been so successful in developing the resources of the Colony and its hinterland—to Oshogbo. The colonial debt has been and is being entirely spent on the construction of bridges connecting the island and town of Lagos with the main land and in the construction of the railway into the thickly-populated interior.

19. Expenditure under pensions and gratuities increased by £743, consequent on several new pensions and gratuities being granted during the year.

20. The saving of £1,172 under head "Governor" was owing to the post being added to that of High Commissioner of Southern Nigeria, whereby only half of the emoluments of Governor and Private Secretary became payable from Lagos funds.

21. The increases in 1905 over 1904 under heads "Interior," "Attorney-General," "Treasury," "Customs," and "Audit" are caused by increases to European and native staff to bring establishment up to an efficient strength. The Customs staff and work had to be entirely reorganized to place it on an efficient basis. The increase under "Interior" is explained by the transfer of expenditure for 16 District Commissioners and their staffs from head "Judicial" to this head.

22. Marine expenditure for 1905 was £4,142 in excess of 1904, which was due to the expenditure on repairs, &c., to

floating craft and increased requirements for stores, &c., found necessary during the year. This Department has undertaken the building of new craft—launches, lighters, &c.—whereby considerable savings are effected over purchases from England.

23. The decrease under head "Judicial" of £3,957 is entirely due to the transfer of the expenditure for 16 District Commissioners and their staffs from this head to Head V., "Interior," these being considered executive rather than judicial appointments.

24. Head XVII., "Miscellaneous," £7,047. This amount is £1,993 more than that expended during the previous year under the same head, and is explained by the payment of £630 to counsel engaged in a Customs law case, whereby over £12,000 was recovered to revenue; the expenses incurred by the Boundary Commission; the expenditure on opening up waterways, and mineral survey.

25. The small additional expenditure of 1905 over 1904 on post office and printing was necessary to meet the extra demands by these Departments for expenditure under "Other Charges" to enable them to cope with increased work required of them.

26. The increase of £3,009 under head "Forests and Agriculture" is due to the support given to the cotton-growing industry and to the general development of the Forest Department.

27. Much of the expenditure hitherto shown under "Sanitary" has been transferred to heads "Medical" and "Public Works Department," and accounts for the decrease (£2,026) under "Sanitary" and proportionate increase under "Medical" and "Public Works."

28. The increase of £1,706 under Public Works Department is explained in the preceding paragraph.

29. "Public Works Recurrent," Head XXVI., expenditure shows an increase of £3,799, which is caused by the increased requirements for several votes under this head. Also to the transfer to this head of certain votes for telegraph services hitherto borne under Public Works Department, Head XXV.

30. Public Works Extraordinary.—The total expenditure was £64,310, against £35,204 for the previous year, and is the largest amount ever spent under this head. The satisfactorily large amount devoted to this heading of expenditure included sums necessary to purchase sites and erect buildings for the better housing of the increasing European staff of the Colony;

for the new Courts of Justice; for more rapid swamp reclamation; for large telegraph extensions; renewals and additions to the electric lighting plant; and new plant for the Government brick works and the printing office, &c.

31. Marine Extraordinary, £6,527.—This expenditure covered the cost of the new steam lifeboat and the balance required to build a launch locally and to complete new marine workshops.

32. The sum of £21,250 was paid to Northern Nigeria during the calendar year 1905 as contribution towards the expenditure of that Protectorate.

33. The increased expenditure in railway and tramway, which amounted to £60,416 as against £53,794 for 1904, was due to greater traffic dealt with.

Assets and Liabilities.

34. The Treasurer's statement of assets and liabilities (*see* Appendix I.) shows excess assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1905, of £262,260. Of these surplus assets £85,150 is represented by investments, and £1,174 by cash balance and drafts and remittances in transit, making total cash assets of £86,324, against which cash assets a liability of £9,007 appears on account of overdrafts from the bank and from the Crown Agents.

Deposits.

35. The amount held on 31st December, 1905, in favour of depositors amounted to £47,087, as against £42,305 nine months earlier as follows:—

—	31st March 1905.	31st December 1905.
	£	£
Savings Bank deposits	22,711	25,184
Bank, British West Africa ...	10,000	10,000
Customs accounts	1,739	3,046
Sundry accounts	7,855	8,857
Total	42,305	47,087

The "sundry" accounts are made up of prison funds, estate accounts, and personal or departmental accounts.

Advances.

36. The total advances due to the Government on 31st December, 1905, amounted to £24,818. On 31st previous March the advances stood at £33,914. These amounts are principally due from other Governments on account of money order and general services.

—	31st March 1905.	31st December 1905.
	£	£
Other Governments	11,656	16,178
Railway Extension	15,722	—
Brickworks...	2,965	2,628
Sundry	3,571	6,012
Total	33,914	24,818

Currency and Banking.

37. British currency passes freely throughout the country, both silver and copper being firmly established, three-penny pieces are especially in demand. Cowries are still used among the natives, but there is no large circulation, and further importation being prohibited, the use of these shells as a medium of exchange will be quickly terminated.

The Bank of British West Africa has a branch at Lagos, where new and more suitable bank buildings were started during the past year and have now been completed. The Government have for some years placed their account with this bank, and have been able to take advantage of the facilities offered where there is a bank established.

The bank has a capital of £250,000, of which £60,000 has been paid up, and a reserve, on 31st March last, of £30,000.

TRADE, SHIPPING, AND AGRICULTURE.

Imports and Exports.

38. The following table shows the total value of trade and the Customs duties collected for the year ended 31st December, 1905, compared with the previous year:—

Imports.

1904.		1905.	
Commercial and Government.	Specie.	Commercial and Government.	Specie.
£ 867,986	£ 51,838	£ 1,036,788	£ 68,695

Exports.

1904.		1905.	
Commercial and Government.	Specie.	Commercial and Government.	Specie.
£ 1,062,576	£ 148,144	£ 963,354	£ 175,917

Total Trade.		Duty.			
		Import.		Export.	
1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.
£ 2,130,544	£ 2,224,754	£ 253,861	£ 258,263	Nil	Nil

General Trade.

39. The total trade, compared with 1904, shows an increase of £114,210, made up as follows:—

—	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£
Imports.—		
Commercial and Government...	168,802	—
Specie	16,857	—
Exports.—		
Commercial and Government...	—	99,222
Specie	27,773	—
Total	213,432	99,222

Increase £114,210.

40. Of the increase of £168,802 in imports, commercial and Government, there has been a considerable increase of £62,836 in Government importations, due chiefly to the large importations of railway material to be used in connection with the extension of the railway to Oshogbo, which when opened will give a new impetus to the trade of the country, and in a minor degree to the erection of the Customs warehouses and public officers' quarters required in connection with the amalgamation of the Colony of Lagos and the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria which has now taken place.

The increase in general importations, exclusive of specie and Government importations, is therefore £105,966 compared with the previous year, and the total is the largest on record, and this, in a year when there has been a breakdown in the yield of palm oil and kernels, shows that the country is in a prosperous condition.

41. The decrease of £99,222 in the total export trade is entirely due to the failure of the palm products, which in Lagos, as in Southern Nigeria, has been caused by the unfavourable rainfall, and accounted for the decrease of £128,407 in the value of output of those products compared with the previous year.

42. The variations in the importation and exportation of specie continue, as in past years, and this is due to the importation of specie to Southern Nigeria, which is brought back to Lagos by native traders from Southern and Northern Nigeria and used by them in renewing their stocks of European merchandise.

43. On the whole it is considered that the trade of the country is making satisfactory and continuing progress, and as an indication of this it is noticed that although the staple

product—palm kernels—was about 14,000 tons short of the previous year, the tonnage borne by rail from up-country as compared with 1904 is as follows:—

1905	... ...	15,226 tons
1904	... ...	15,863 tons

—and general merchandise for up-country by rail show increases throughout in the principal commodities.

Customs Duties.

44. There is an apparent increase of £4,402 in the import duties collected during the year 1905, as compared with the previous year, but in the receipts for 1905 is included an amount of £12,285, representing duties on spirits short collected in previous years. The actual import duties for the year amounted therefore to £245,978, or a shortage of £7,883, due entirely to the falling off in the importation of spirits caused to some extent by the increased duty on spirit, but more especially by the failure of the output of palm products.

Imports.

45. The quantity and value of the principal articles of import for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1905, compared with the result of the year previous are shown in Appendix A.*

46. The following statement shows the total value of imports into the Colony and the value of imports from the various countries during the last two years, exclusive of specie, and the increases which have occurred in every case during the present year:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Germany.	Holland.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£
1905	1,036,788	780,711	153,500	27,569	75,008
1904	867,986	631,900	149,874	16,130	70,082
Increase ...	168,802	148,811	3,626	11,439	4,926

The import trade, therefore, is apportioned as follows:—

—	1905.	1904.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
From the United Kingdom...	75¼	73
„ Germany	15	17¼
„ Holland	2½	1¾
„ Other Countries ...	7¼	8

* Not printed.

Compared with the previous year the United Kingdom has gained a proportion of 2¼ per cent., which has been lost by Germany, while Holland gains ¾ per cent., which has been lost by other countries.

Decreases.

47. The following table shows the quantity and value of the principal articles in which there have been decreases during the year:—

Articles.	1903.		1904.		1905.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Beads ...	—	19,199	—	21,277	—	20,835
Coopers' Stores	—	17,621	—	16,026	—	15,015
Gunny Bags...	—	8,544	—	16,659	—	15,813
Gunpowder lbs.	243,417	3,167	239,705	3,194	225,886	2,951
Matches gross	—	4,496	—	7,709	108,028	4,824
Soap cwts.	—	5,720	—	5,714	11,477	5,418
Spirits gals.	1,085,820	108,224	1,043,740	78,409	783,159	70,091

48. The following comments may be made in connection with these articles:—

Beads.

The trade in beads continues to be transferred from the United Kingdom to Germany, and while the importations from the United Kingdom show a comparatively large decrease of £1,494, those from Germany have increased by £402.

Coopers' Stores and Gunny Bags.

The decreases are entirely due to the falling off in the exports of palm oil and palm kernels.

Spirits.

The decrease in the importation of spirits is almost entirely due to the failure of the output of palm products, and accounts for the shortness in the revenue received, which would undoubtedly otherwise have reached the estimate.

Increases.

Foodstuffs.

49. There have been increases in every article of food, as will be seen on referring to the following table:—

Articles.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£
Flour	7,237	5,694	6,330
Kola Nuts	38,696	41,064	45,567
Provisions	9,684	8,684	19,492
Rice...	7,779	6,985	9,268
Salt	8,389	9,465	9,990
Sugar	3,551	3,411	4,161

Clothing.

50. Large increases have taken place under all articles of clothing. The importations are shown below for three years:—

Articles.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£
Cotton Goods	381,993	367,120	423,928
Silk Goods	8,311	7,043	10,410
Wearing Apparel	4,968	6,578	6,939
Woollen Goods	7,324	4,522	6,460

The large fluctuation in cotton goods is caused by the inflated state of the cotton market in 1904, merchants using up their old stocks in that year, and buying when the prices had fallen, and the market less inflated.

Building Materials, Housing, &c.

51. On the whole articles for building purposes, housing, &c., continue to show progress:—

Articles.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£
Building Materials ...	31,743	31,970	40,786
Earthenware	7,375	7,539	9,057
Glassware	2,790	2,537	2,626
Hardware	14,929	13,521	20,766

Tobacco.

52. The importations of "unmanufactured" tobacco for the last three years are shown in the following table:—

1903.		1904.		1905.	
Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Lbs. 1,202,822	£ 25,389	Lbs. 1,034,892	£ 21,048	Lbs. 1,054,091	£ 21,278

This consists principally of American leaf tobacco, although a certain amount of tobacco soaked in molasses is imported from Bahia in kegs containing 56 lbs., on which it was found, at the end of 1904, that duty had been incorrectly charged at the rate of 25 lbs. the keg only, kegs of 25 lbs. having been formerly imported as well as kegs of about 50 lbs., and no kegs having been weighed to ascertain the weight of those imported for some years past.

53. The foregoing statements clearly indicate that the condition of the country is improving, and the trade making favourable progress as the means of communication improve.

EXPORTS.

54. The quantity and value of the principal articles exported during the year are shown in Appendix B.*

55. The following statement shows the total value of exports from the Colony to various countries during the last two years, exclusive of specie and goods in transit, and the decrease in each case as compared with 1904:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Germany.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£
1905	797,695	261,364	506,149	30,081
1904	917,956	294,939	594,103	31,914
Decrease	120,261	33,575	87,954	1,833

Germany continues to take most of the exports owing to the capture of the palm kernel trade, for which large prices are paid by the German traders.

* Not printed.

The percentages taken by each country are as follows, excluding specie and transit goods:—

Year.	United Kingdom.	Germany.	Other Countries.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
1905...	33	63	4
1904...	32	64¾	3¼

DECREASES.

56. The following table shows for three years the quantity and value of the articles in which decreases have occurred in the export trade requiring explanation:—

Article.	1903.		1904.		1905.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Palm kernels ... tons	63,568	567,612	59,318	579,343	45,177	491,044
Palm oil ... ... galls.	3,174,060	218,245	3,196,442	219,114	2,765,909	179,006
Mahogany	—	56,167	—	25,851	—	10,858
Cocoa ... ... lbs.	341,461	6,705	821,732	13,892	663,508	10,889
Animals, living	—	736	3,566	3,815	1,954	1,369

Palm Products.

57. The falling off in the export of palm produce has been explained in various ways, but the real reason appears to be the short rainfall of 1905, which seriously affected the growth of the nuts. A diagram, I., is attached (*see* Appendix III.), showing the exports of palm oil and kernels for 10 years.

Mahogany.

58. It is reported that a larger proportion of the mahogany cut in Lagos was shipped from Benin River than in previous years, which does not appear in the Lagos returns, and now that the transport arrangements are becoming more difficult as much timber will not be brought out as in previous years.

Cocoa.

59. The falling off in this product is most disappointing, and may possibly have a bad effect for a time on the native farmers, but as in the case with the palm products, the cocoa industry has been affected by the deficient rainfall, and a favourable

rainfall will probably cause a considerable increase in the output during the forthcoming year.

Living Animals.

60. The decrease this year is attributed to a shortage in the herds brought from Northern Nigeria. Supplies of sheep and cattle for local consumption are also shorter than in previous years.

Increases.

61. There have been comparatively large increases in various minor products. The quantities and values of the principal of such products exported during the last three years are shown in the following table—

Article	1903.		1904.		1905.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Coffee ... ... lbs.	26,550	157	11,220	136	81,301	1,229
Corn ... ... tons.	—	2,215	4,689	16,115	9,385	32,504
Cotton ginned ... „	—	—	385	12,330	571	15,591*
„ seed ... „	174	7,111	431	1,134	699	3,557
Hides ... ... lbs.	—	—	13,080	674	41,501	1,530
Shea Butter	62	2,702	127	3,285	223	4,914

* Amount arrived at from returns furnished to the Customs. Actual value about double this amount.

Coffee.

62. Owing to the increased prices in the European markets, a revival in this produce has taken place. There are numbers of mature trees which are reported to have been much neglected, and the quality of the coffee affected thereby.

Corn.

63. Corn or maize shows an increase of as much again compared with the last year, even although the output must have been seriously affected by the short rainfall.

The Commercial Intelligence Officer reports as follows on this article:—

> "*Maize.*—A very gratifying increase is to be noted under this head—the total exports being just double what they were the previous year. There seems every prospect of maize, which, up to so recently as 1901, was not shipped to Europe, becoming a permanent and valuable fixture in

our export list, and I think we shall not go far wrong in assuming that during the current year there will again be a large increase on the figures for 1905. It is a risky thing to prophesy in this country, but under normal conditions I shall not be surprised to see 20,000 tons go out of Lagos in 1906. When returning from a recent tour in the Western District, towards the end of January, I saw field after field of ripe ungathered maize. Much of this will doubtless be kept for local consumption, but a fair proportion will figure as an export. It may here be noted by the way that for the month of January, 1906, 2,196 tons were shipped, whilst only 101 tons went away in the same month, 1905. Good as the results have been, it is not altogether surprising that our small farmers have taken so kindly to this product, for it is one which entails very little outlay, and the results (unlike cocoa, &c.), are quickly seen. It is the first coarse cultivated short crop product for which the native agriculturists have had a free and ready market in unlimited quantities, and that fact, *i.e.*, the one of being sure of getting cash down on the spot for bulk without having to wait for the absorption of supplies as a local foodstuff here, will, I believe, have far-reaching effects upon the development of agriculture generally in the Colony. It is to be hoped, therefore, that steamship freights will not be again tampered with, and that this new departure, at all events, may be fostered in every possible way, for very much depends upon the retention of the farmers' confidence, which I am sorry to say, has often been misplaced with regard to commodities for the European market. Although perhaps somewhat outside my province, it may be permissible to point out, for the information of the steamship companies, that generally speaking, the bulky cargoes of maize will be shipped in the off season for oil, and one would think it would, for that reason, be a very acceptable tonnage to the freight carriers. The Lagos Government Railway is, it may be noted, carrying maize for the Ibadan district at about one-third the rate charged for palm kernels.

"The rail tonnage of maize was 2,501 tons in 1905, as against 1,735 tons in 1904.

"Complaints were received from Europe in the latter half of the year as to some of the consignments being shipped in an immature condition. As in all new business, we have to pay for our inexperience or carelessness, and doubtless the merchants this coming season will be better able to discriminate between the good and doubtful qualities. If they decline to buy "green" stuff, the natives will very quickly bring it down in proper condition, for they know the difference quite well. Personally, I should be very sorry to find the merchants requesting the Government to

protect them from themselves, regarding corn, by an extension of the powers of the Produce Inspectors, and, so far as my voice goes, I shall not encourage any such idea.

"Given a continuance of the present steamship and railway rates, I think there is an extremely bright future, beneficial in many ways, before the maize industry, and it may not be out of place to put upon record in its early years the fact that toMr. H. B. Russell, C.M.G., is mainly due the credit of the inception of this valuable addition to our export trade.

"These maize notes are of course written on the assumption that the staple oil and kernel industries will not be neglected, and that the clearing of greater areas of forest land will not affect our rainfall."

Cotton.

64. It is thought that the official returns for 1904 are misleading, and that cotton seed was mixed up to some extent with cotton; in any case, there is an increase of about 42 per cent. in the value of the cotton exported, comparing the values of the two together in each year.

The following report has been made by the Commercial Intelligence Officer in connection with this industry:—

"After recently visiting one of the principal native cotton-growing centres in Yorubaland (Oke Ho and Iganna), lying about 120 miles from Lagos town and three days' journey from rail, where all the cotton gathered is absorbed locally for the manufacture of yarn and in turn country cloths, I feel much more sanguine with regard to the future of the raw cotton export trade.

"The question of transport from outlying districts, say, two to four days from rail, is of course the great difficulty, and it must be remembered that, generally speaking, these are the very districts in which there is no palm industry, and where I am certain ½*d.* per lb. for seed cotton on the spot would be a very acceptable price to the native farmers. But, for the present at all events, it would be very unreasonable to suggest that the British Cotton-growing Association should go so far afield with their steam-ginning plant.

"I believe His Excellency has hit upon the true solution of the difficulty of working these remoter townships by the rough hand gins, similar to those used in India, and if only we can induce the natives to use these gins and bring the lint cotton down to some buying-station on rail, I think it highly probable that cotton-growing for export will here become a large and permanent industry and one

which will not be killed by the return to normal prices in Europe. For reasons fully explained in my previous report on this subject, I think the cheap wooden 'roller' gins have, notwithstanding the comparatively small output, ever so much greater chance of popularity with our up-country natives than the costlier American or British-made 'saw' machines.

"Some idea of the cheapness of labour in the up-country districts may be gathered from the fact that samples of native-spun yarn which I bought retail in the market at Oke Ho (small knots for 100 cowries each), work out at only 8*d*. per lb. for a soft clean, coarse yarn, and 1*s*. 7*d*. per lb. for a hard one, finer, I think, than the imported 6*s*. The only implements used in the ginning, cleaning, and spinning of this native yarn are:—

(*a*) a small slab of hard wood,
(*b*) a thin iron roller,
(*c*) an ordinary native bow, and
(*d*) a wooden spindle.

"The whole process is the most interesting one I have seen in this country, and, although the implements are so primitive, the results, apart from unevenness in thread, are, in my opinion, equal to anything all our complicated machinery can produce in Europe. But, of course, it is very slow indeed."

Hides.

65. The increase in the export of this valuable product is most gratifying, and as communication with Northern Nigeria is facilitated, it is expected to divert the greater proportion of this trade, which at present is said to go across to Tripoli.

Shea Butter.

66. There is a comparatively large increase in the output of this product, which is shipped to the neighbouring West African Colonies. There are large areas within the Lagos Protectorate where the shea tree abounds, and as the people of these districts have no palm products to rely on, it will be a great benefit to them if they can find a market for shea produce. In connection with the export of this article it is noticed that whereas in 1904 only 25 tons of shea butter came down by rail, in 1905 there was carried by rail from up-country 131 tons of this product.

Rubber.

67. The exports of this product remained practically stationary during the year, compared with 1904, the value of the article exported in 1905 being slightly less than in 1904.

SHIPPING.

68. A comparative statement of the number and tonnage of steam and sailing ships entered and cleared in the Colony during the years 1904 and 1905 is shown in Appendix C.*

69. The trade of Lagos is greatly hampered by the bar which closes the harbour to all ships with a draft exceeding 11 feet, and the cost of commodities is much increased by the extra freights for the transhipment of goods and the long delays which consequently occur before delivery.

70. The question of deepening the channel across the bar has been under discussion for twenty years, and various reports and suggestions have been made on the subject. It has now been decided to attempt to dredge a channel, and for this purpose a large dredger has been ordered.

Transit Trade.

71. There is a considerable transit trade with the French Colony of Dahomey, viâ Porto Novo, as is shown by the following statement:—

Year.	Value.	Transit duty paid.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1900	3,268 5 8	199 17 8
1901	6,841 8 6	203 6 2
1902	11,200 14 5	434 12 10
1903	4,437 17 9	246 1 4
1904	7,974 8 10	329 2 0
1905	117,281 14 3*	41 8 8

* Of this sum, £102,609 represents the value of produce exported from Dahomey *via* Lagos. This was hitherto wrongly included in exports from Lagos.

72. An Order in Council of 29th March, 1905, abolished all transit fees with the exception of 5 per cent. of the duty on kerosene oil, gunpowder, and firearms, and this accounts for the large increase in this trade.

73. Two diagrams—II. and III.—are attached (*see* Appendices IV. and V.) comparing the imports and exports of the Colony to the United Kingdom with those to other countries.

FORESTRY AND AGRICULTURE.

74. The Forestry Departments of Lagos and Southern Nigeria were amalgamated on the 28th June, 1905, from which date

* Not printed.

they have been under the charge of the Conservator of Forests, Southern Nigeria. In Lagos the Department is rather short of officers.

75. During the year frequent visits were made to all the Government reserved forests, their boundaries were inspected, roads cleared and new ones made, farming and hunting registers checked, and the planting in them of economic plants, such as Para rubber, funtumia elastica, Iroko (chlorophora excelsa), mahogany, &c., undertaken systematically. In this respect the Mamu and Olokemeji reserves are more advanced than the others. The former has been divided up into compartments that are cleared of undergrowth, the large trees being left as standards, and a certain number planted every year with the indigenous rubber tree, funtumia elastica. Up to date, seven compartments, amounting to 150 acres, have been completely stocked with that species, whilst clearing operations were carried out during the year for further planting in 1906. The Olokemeji reserve, owing to its proximity to the railway, is the most valuable one we possess. The forests are mainly of the "deciduous" type, but "mixed" ones are also to be found along the banks of the Ogun River and on the shady aspects of the hills. Valuable species, such as the West African mahoganies and cedars, are to be met with here. A certain amount of restriction has been placed on farming, and the natives were induced to plant up the fallow land with rubber, iroko, and other valuable plants. The Oshun River reserve is much cut up with farming, and, owing to its inaccessibility, difficult to manage. The planting of the indigenous rubber tree was started here during the year.

76. In the Illaro reserve group regeneration under the wild rubber trees was begun, and the planting of six acres with that species accomplished, whilst more land was prepared for planting during 1906. Besides these four reserves, which are either leased to Government or belong to it outright (Mamu reserve), the Department has, conjointly with the Ibadan authorities, the management of the Ibadan State reserve. This was adequately protected during the year.

77. Considerable efforts were made to bring to the notice of the farming and planting communities the value of Para rubber cultivation, which appears to be well suited to the climate of the littoral districts. 5,266 seeds of this species were imported from the Straits Settlements, and these, together with 5,500 procured locally from trees growing in the Ebute-Metta gardens, have formed the nucleus for the starting of Government plantations at Mamu and in the Agege district and for the distribution of seedlings to the general public. A much larger quantity of seed will be imported next year for distribution to farmers in the Colony

The cultivation of castilloa elastica at Olokemeji has proved a failure, the plants having been exterminated by a boring beetle identified by Mr. Dudgeon as Inesida leprosa. The same insect attacks the parent trees in the Ebute Metta gardens.

The India rubber tree, ficus elastica, appears to be well suited for cultivation out here; it has done excellently at Olokemeji, where a small plantation exists, and it has been distributed to farmers residing in the reserve. The cultivation of this species will be greatly extended next year.

Plantations of that valuable timber tree, iroko (chlorophora excelsa), are also being started in the vicinity of the railway.

78. The Botanical Gardens both at Olokemeji and Ebute Metta were well maintained during the year, especially the former, which is being increased and has supplied the bulk of the plants distributed; the work of distribution is becoming heavier every year, and it alone practically takes up the whole time of one European officer. The distinguished French botanist, Monsieur A. Chevalier, who visited them last rains, commented very favourably on the gardens.

During 1905 the distribution amounted to 43,552 plants, 556 suckers, 300 cuttings, 208 bundles, 1,708 counted seeds, 79 lbs. weight of seed, and 50 pods, the bulk of which consisted chiefly of Gold Coast kolas (15,820), cocoa (15,380), funtumia elastica (2,700), nutmeg (1,359), shade trees (824), assorted ornamental plants (3,583), and 200 bundles of Bahama grass.

Thanks to the generosity of His Excellency the Governor, the Curators of Botanical Gardens from various parts of the world, and to Societies and private individuals, the gardens have been enriched by the acquisition of a large number of valuable plants.

79. The series of agricultural experiments were carried out at Olokemeji in connection with various crops. It was found that on poor, light soil there is but little difference in the yield per acre between cotton grown on small ridges and that grown on the flat.

The most suitable variety for cultivation at Olokemeji, the climate of which is that of the "dry zone" (rainfall 51·5 inches and a long, hot, dry season) appears to be the Upland American (Black Rattler). Next to this comes the Egyptian cotton (Mit Afifi).

These are the most suitable as far as yield per acre of cotton is concerned. The British Cotton-Growing Association report that the best quality cotton experimented with was Janovich (Egyptian), the produce of which was valued at 6¾*d.* to 7*d.* per lb., and Abassi (Egyptian), at 6½*d.* per lb. These valuations were made at home, on material grown at Olokemeji. All the cotton experimented with suffered, not only from the attacks of

caterpillars, but the bolls themselves were invaded by a small hemipterous insect that Mr. Dudgeon identified as oxycarenus hyalinepennis, the presence of which induces discolouration of the fibres. The Department is much indebted to Mr. Worsley, manager of the British Cotton-Growing Association, Lagos, for help in carrying out these experiments.

Guinea corn, one of the most paying crops for the poor light soils of the dry zone, and maize were both successfully grown in the ordinary rotation of crops. The cobs of the latter are attacked before harvesting by a species of weevil that does a great deal of damage to the corn. The native method of trying to remedy this by smoking the corn in the cob after it is harvested has proved quite ineffectual. Mr. Farquhar recommends the corn being threshed out and fumigated in properly erected kilns similar to those in which hops are dried and cured in Worcestershire. Experiments in growing flax or linseed failed entirely. A large crop of castor oil was grown, and the seed given to the Locomotive Superintendent, Government Railway, Lagos, for experiment; his report showed that six cwt. of crushed seed yield 28 gallons of oil at a cost of 1*s.* 10*d.* per gallon. The yield per cent. of weight is thus 35 per cent., a very good figure. The oil is now being tried on the machinery, and a further report is promised on the results.

The ramie fibre plant grows most luxuriously at Olokemeji, and promises, if unchecked, to become a troublesome weed. Mr. Foster, the Curator, started a demonstration plot of 5½ acres, of which 3½ acres were planted up with cocoa under the shade of some of the best varieties of West Indian bananas, and ½ acre under the shade of pigeon peas; the latter, however, are not suitable for nurses, as they drop most of their leaves during the dry season. In addition to these, small plots were planted up with tobacco, Jamaica ginger, arrowroot, and eschalots, all of which have done well, thus showing, without doubt, that farmers in this country need not limit themselves to the cultivation of only a few crops.

Three pupils were attached to the gardens during the year, and have turned out satisfactory work.

80. The revenue derived from the sales of timber and "chew sticks" in the Olokemeji reserve amounted to £47 18*s.* 3*d.*, and that for the sales of economic and ornamental plants to £84 10*s.* 6*d.*, making a total of £132 8*s.* 9*d.* The expenditure of the Department for 1905, including £2,000, granted to the British Cotton-Growing Association, comes to £5,039 17*s.* 1*d.*

81. The supervision of timber exploitation has been left in the hands of the District Commissioners and Native Councils. Seventeen timber leases exist in the Ondo district, and during the year they yielded 3,255 logs, on which royalties amounting to £1,738 10*s.* were paid; half of this sum was credited to the "Prison Fund," and the balance to the native chiefs.

LEGISLATION.

82. During the year under review there were 11 ordinances passed by the legislature of the Colony. The majority of these are of no great importance, and only amend minor points in the principal Ordinances referred to. There is only one ordinance of the year which calls for any particular mention, and that is the Mining Regulation Ordinance, passed on March 17th. Up to this time there had been no law for regulating mining operations, and as there were several applications from persons desirous of prospecting for minerals in the Colony or Protectorate, it was found that such a law was urgently needed. There was some slight opposition on the part of two or three of the native unofficial members of Council to the introduction of the Bill, these members fearing that the rights of native chiefs would be interfered with by the passing of the Bill, but on its being pointed out that the very essence of the measure was to safeguard the native communities from parting with valuable rights without adequate consideration, all opposition was withdrawn, and the Bill, after being referred to a Select Committee, on which the original dissenting members, amongst others, sat, was unanimously passed in all its terms.

83. It will be observed that two Supply ordinances were passed in this year; the reason for this being that a change was made with regard to the time the financial year should end. The first ordinance dealt with the Supply up to March 31st, 1905 (the end of the old financial year), and the second ordinance with the Supply up to December 31st, 1905 (the end of the new financial year).

84. The following is a full list of all the ordinances, Orders in Legislative Council and Executive Council made during the year:—

ORDINANCES.

No. 1. The Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1905, passed 28th February.

No. 2. The Supply Ordinance, 1905, passed 3rd March.

No. 3. The Supreme Court Ordinance, 1905, passed 9th March.

No. 4. The Statute Laws Revision Ordinance, 1905, passed 9th March.

No. 5. The West African Frontier Force (Lagos Battalion) Ordinance, 1905, passed 17th March.

No. 6. The Mining Regulation Ordinance, 1905, passed 17th March.

No. 7. The Supply Ordinance, 1905, passed 3rd November.

No. 8. The Customs Ordinance, 1905, passed 6th December.

No. 9. The Pensions Ordinance, 1904, Repeal Ordinance, 1905, passed 6th December.

No. 10. The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, 1905, passed 6th December.

No. 11. The West African Frontier Force (Lagos Battalion) Amendment Ordinance, 1905, passed 6th December.

ORDERS IN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Orders and Rules made under Ordinance, No. 3, of 1878, on 29th August, 1905.

Order made under the Petroleum Ordinance, 1889, on 29th August, 1905.

Order made under the Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1905, on 29th August.

ORDERS IN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Rules made under the Mining Regulation Ordinance, No. 6, of 1905, on 29th March.

Order made under the Pensions Ordinance, No. 4, of 1902, on 26th May.

Order and Rules made under the Wild Animals, Birds, and Fish Preservation Ordinance, No. 15, of 1900, on 29th August, 1905.

Order made under the Customs Tariff Ordinance, No. 1, of 1905, on 30th August.

EDUCATION.

85. There were four meetings of the Board of Education during the school year.

86. The number of schools offered for inspection was as follows:—

——	Infant.	Primary.	Secondary.	Remarks.
Government ...	5	5	1	Representing five schools.
Assisted ...	29	27	2	Representing 32 schools.

87. There was an increase of 229 children on the registers of the above schools during the year. The number on the

registers, the average attendance, and the numbers examined in the schools offered for inspection are as follows:—

Description.	Number.	Number of Pupils on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Number Examined.
Church of England Mission ...	13	2,101	1,619·7	1,606
Roman Catholic Mission ...	7	1,040	772·3	941
Wesleyan Mission	10	830	607·6	592
United Native African Church	2	175	143·3	120
Total Assisted Schools ...	32	4,146	3,149·9	3,259
Government Schools	5	237	121·4	202
Total Government and Assisted Schools.	37	4,383	3,271·3	3,461

In explanation of the smallness of the average attendance at Government schools, it may be mentioned that these are new schools, some of them in out-stations where the necessity for regular and punctual school attendance is slow in taking root in the native mind.

88. The Government grants to assisted schools were apportioned as follows:—Church of England, £999; Roman Catholic, £829; Wesleyan, £373, United Native African Church, £93, making a total of £2,294.

89. Nine schools presented children for examination in sanitation, and though only 45 per cent. of the children passed the examination, the results, taking into consideration the newness of the subject, were promising.

90. Excellent work has been done at the St. Mary's Convent School for Girls in Lagos town, where 121 girls were presented at the annual inspection. The curriculum includes instruction in domestic economy, comprising laundry and needle work, in which good results were obtained.

91. Little progress has as yet been made in technical or industrial teaching in the Colony. It is hoped soon to arrange a scheme of agricultural teaching for the village schools especially. Carpentry, pottery, and metal work will, it is hoped, be developed as subjects of instruction in the near future.

92. The annual competitive exhibition of school work held in Lagos on the 16th of December, proved very successful, and the results obtained were, on the whole, very satisfactory. On the 20th and 21st of December the examination for teachers' certificates took place, and 52 teachers were successful in

obtaining certificates. Simultaneously was held an examination for Government scholarships tenable at secondary schools. Twenty candidates presented themselves for five scholarships.

93. The sum of £20 offered for the school in which the most thorough and practical work is done was awarded to St. Mary's Convent School for Girls.

94. In last year's report, the Inspector of Schools was obliged to comment unfavourably on the lack of discipline observable in many of the assisted schools, and the inadequate control which many teachers seemed to exercise over their classes. The Inspector of Schools notes that the discipline maintained in the schools shows some improvement, though it is in some cases still below the desired standard.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Lagos Hospital.

95. The staff of the hospital consists of one resident medical officer, three European nurses, nine native nurses, and 16 apprentice native nurses.

European Section.

96. The European ward of the hospital contains 10 beds—six male and four female; the average daily occupation during the year 1905 being two.

During the year 1905 the number of Europeans treated in hospital was as follows:—

Officials, Lagos	27
,, railway	22
Non-officials	68
	117

including:—

63 Cases of malarial fever, 5 deaths;
9 Cases of blackwater fever, 2 deaths;
11 Cases of dysentery, 1 death;
1 Case of septicaemia, who died;
1 Case of acute febrile neuritis, who died;
2 Cases of cardial affection, 1 death;
2 Cases of liver abscess, 1 death;
1 Case of colitis, who died;

giving a total of 13 deaths out of the 117 patients admitted to the hospital, or a death-rate of 11·11 per 100.

(N.B.—It is usually the serious cases that seek admission into the hospital, the less important ones being treated at their own houses.)

Native Section.

97. During the year 1905 a new ward of 17 beds was opened to provide accommodation for the men of the West African Frontier Force.

The total number of beds in the native section of the hospital is now 60, the average daily occupation since the opening of the new ward being 52; previous to that, of the 46 beds in wards A, B, C (three of which beds have now been abolished), there was an average daily occupation of 37.

One hundred and eighty-eight operations were performed (excluding knife operations). The number of natives who were patients at the hospital during the year was 891, viz.:—

Officials	26
West African Frontier Force... ...	153
Police Force	154
Paupers	558
	891

of these 113 were suffering from malarial fever, 6 deaths;

10 suffering from dysentery, 2 deaths;
2 suffering from beri-beri, 2 deaths;
11 suffering from tetanus, 10 deaths;
10 suffering from tubercle, 3 deaths;
26 suffering from pneumonia, 11 deaths;

the total deaths among the native in-patients being 95, or 10·66 per 100. Many of the serious cases come to hospital moribund, native treatment having failed to cure.

The chief diseases were malarial fever, pulmonary and intestinal acute diseases, rheumatism, and chronic ulcers.

The attendance of out-patients during the year was 18,151, an average of 1,512 per month. This represented a total of 4,243 cases, of whom four died, 3,029 were cured, and 916 returned as improved.

Yaba Leper Asylum.

98. During the year 1905 there were 10 admissions, 8 discharges, and no deaths. At the close of 1904 there were 12 male and 3 female patients in the asylum, as compared with 11 males and 6 females at the end of the year under review.

Medical Staff.

99. The medical staff consisted of:—

1 Principal Medical Officer,
1 Senior Medical Officer,
15 Medical Officers,
4 Native Medical Officers.

Medical Officers were stationed in the following districts during 1905:—

1. Lagos East District.
2. Lagos West District.
3. Lagos Hospital.
4. Ereko Dispensary.
5. Massey Street Dispensary.
6. Ebute-Metta (and Dispensary).
7. Epe (and Hospital).
8. Badagry (and Hospital).
9. Ikorodu-Shagamu (and Dispensary).
10. Ibadan (and Dispensary).
11. Aro (and Dispensary).
12. Ilesha (and Dispensary).
13. Lagos Railway Oshogbo Extension, Ibadan.
14. Lagos Railway Oshogbo Extension, 32½ mile camp.
15. Lagos Railway Oshogbo Extension Survey Party.

PRISON.

100. The staff consists of one European officer, 22 warders, and two matrons (clerical staff extra). The system is separate throughout, there being accommodation for 164 convicted male prisoners, 16 females, and 22 untried prisoners.

101. On the 31st of December there were 184 prisoners of all classes in custody. Three executions took place during the year, and six other deaths occurred—from natural causes.

102. Indoor labour consists of book-binding, carpentering, tailoring, laundry, making mats, screens, baskets, and palliasses. Outdoor labour—the prisoners are chiefly employed in filling in swamps. The total earnings for the year accruing from labour amounted to £1,609. The total cost of maintenance was £2,879.

JUDICIAL.

103. In July the new Courts of Justice were opened by His Excellency the Governor.

The building, which contains a court for the Chief Justice, a court for the police magistrate, a law library, registrar's offices, &c., is of fine proportions and well suited for the purposes for which it was designed.

104. As regards the criminal statistics, the number of cases before the magistrates shows a further decrease. The more serious offences, tried at Assizes, increased, amounting to 81, as compared with 41 in the previous year. The method, however, of recording the cases has been altered. According to the old system, the number would be 56. There appears to be no special reason for the increase.

The number of cases tried by the Supreme Court under its extended jurisdiction at Abeokuta and Ibadan was small. Only 13 criminal cases were heard during the year.

VITAL STATISTICS.

105. The estimated European population in Lagos and Ebute-Metta (suburb) was 400, of whom about half were officials. The rest are classified as merchants, missionaries, and ladies. There were also "Syrians," who are not included in the above total.

This European population is practically 25 per cent. l. ger than it was four years ago.

106. The deaths among Europeans were 15 in Lagos town and two at Ebute-Metta. Of these, seven were officials (including three from railway). There was one death from dysentery among officials (a railway official). Non-climatic diseases caused six of the total deaths, and in three of the fatal malarial fever cases there was chronic long-standing disease other than climatic. The total number of Europeans treated at the Lagos Hospital was 117.

107. There were 45,410 successful vaccinations performed in Lagos Colony and Protectorate, in spite of the great difficulties presented by superstition, ignorance, established customs, and the influence of the small-pox god priesthood.

108. The anti-malarial campaign (swamp land reclamation, use of quinine for prophylaxis, use of kerosene oil, &c.) has continued with most satisfactory results.

Vital Statistics (Native).

109. Lagos and Ebute-Metta—Births, 2,535.
" " Deaths, 2,458.

Of these, 951 were in infants under 5 years of age (529 males and 422 females). The chief causes of deaths were, as usual, malarial fever, pulmonary diseases (in the rainy and cold seasons), and acute bowel diseases (diarrhœa and dysentery). 39,611 patients were treated in Government institutions.

POSTAL SERVICE.

110. During the year under review the number of letters, postcards, and other articles dealt with by the Post Office was 567,206, being a considerable increase on the figures for preceding years. Of this total, 28,044 articles were registered and 31 insured. The value of insured articles was £801.

111. There has also been an increase in parcel post business, 11,942 parcels having passed through the post office, as compared with 11,431 in 1904.

112. The total amount of money order transactions was £29,035, showing an increase of £3,735 on the previous year's results.

113. The postal order system was introduced in March, and orders to the value of £1,064 were sold during the ten months, whilst orders from abroad amounting to £383 were cashed. This system was at first confined to the head office, but it has since been extended to other districts, and steps are being taken to extend the facilities afforded thereby for remitting small sums of money.

114. Postal revenue amounted to £3,853, as against £3,758 in 1904. The expenditure was £2,167, an increase of £855 on that of the preceding year.

115. The following statement shows the development of postal service during the last five years:—

—	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
Letters and Postcards ...	219,469*	357,312*	218,804*	239,236*	325,584	370,776
Newspapers, &c.	119,194	539,544	119,564	99,139	139,968	169,152
Articles Registered... ...	—	—	—	—	26,413	28,044
Articles Insured	—	—	—	—	21	31
Parcels	5,481	11,892	8,680	10,993	11,431	11,942
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Money Orders Issued ...	8,518 5 5	9,391 17 0	9,258 0 8	11,016 14 5	12,128 3 6	10,398 2 6
Money Orders Paid ...	12,439 9 4	12,205 11 8	10,266 9 7	10,881 19 7	13,173 18 2	18,636 18 2
Postal Orders--						
Number Sold	—	—	—	—	—	2,175 (Value £1,064 15*s.* 6*d.*)
Number Paid	—	—	—	—	—	542 (Value £382 18*s.* 4*d.*)
Postal Revenue	1,522 5 4	1,875 1 8	2,151 2 4	2,691 4 10	3,639 18 3	£ s. d. 3,853 1 2

* Including Registered Articles.

PUBLIC WORKS.

116. The year under review has been notable for the completion of several important buildings and works, and the following may be mentioned in particular, the figures in brackets representing total costs:—

Buildings.

New Courts of Justice; a solid, imposing and commodious structure, built in Tinubu Square on the site of the old Court House which had served its purpose since 1877, but which was quite inadequate for current requirements—(£11,948).

New quarters for officers and new offices and stores for the West African Frontier Force—(£4,782).

New ice factory—(£4,093).

Quarters for the Director of Public Works—(£2,212).

Quarters for the Principal Medical Officer—(£1,775)

Four new market sheds—(£1,838).

New quarters for Public Works Department, European staff—(£1,268).

Extensions, electric light station—(£1,296).

Additions to the printing office (costing £378) and to the lands office (£282) were made during the year, and a considerable amount of minor work was done both at headquarters and at out-stations.

Reclamation of Swamps, &c.

117. This work was actively continued in various parts of Lagos Island, and over 50,000 cubic yards of soil were used in filling in the areas reclaimed. The appearance of the northern and southern points of the Island has in consequence of these operations undergone a complete change as compared with, say, four years ago, and the prospects of good health in these parts of the town have been greatly enhanced—this apart from the throwing open of considerable space excellently adapted for business premises on the north, and dwelling houses on the south, in a town which had already become very congested. Incidentally it may be noted that a portion of the reclaimed area to the north has already been sold on terms which recoup the Government for its outlay. Buildings of quarters for European officers were commenced during the year on the reclaimed area formerly known as Kokomaiko Swamp, to the south of the Island, and although it is believed that a few years must elapse before the whole of this valuable space can be safely utilized for buildings, there can be no question as to the wisdom of the scheme, whereby one of the most noisome patches in Lagos town has been blotted out.

Sanitary.

118. Three new public wells have been sunk and all others periodically cleaned out. Useful work was also accomplished in the direction of road and street repairing, surface drainage, and sanitation generally.

Roads.

119. 1905 marks the commencement of the Oyo-Ibadan road, upon which it is hoped that some practical solution of the transport difficulty will be found. In view of the importance of this question it may be noted that the road has a width of 12 feet clear, but has been so constructed as to allow of widening when motor or other vehicular traffic demand it. The maximum gradient is 1 in 20, and all bridges and culverts are of a permanent character. The distance from present railhead at Ibadan to Oyo is about 35 miles. Influenced by the better facilities for transport, one of the leading Lagos firms has acquired land for a factory at Oyo, and has already opened up in a small way there. In view of the fact that the town is on the main caravan route to the north, and that the important centres of Ogbomosho and Iseyin are within practically a day's journey, other houses may be expected to follow.

In Lagos town over a couple of miles of roads were re-made, including the Marina, which is coated with laterite gravel, brought down by rail. This road has now a surface which in evenness will compare very favourably with the average highway in England.

Telegraphs.

120. Generally speaking, communication with the interior was well maintained during the year. The construction of the new line from Ibadan to Akure was completed, thereby establishing more reliable communication with Southern Nigeria than by the old cable and air line from Lagos to Forcados.

Marine Department.

121. Notwithstanding the disadvantages under which the Lagos Dockyard continues to labour on its old site, all the existing river craft have been maintained in good running order with the exception of the Governor's yacht "Maud" and steam launch "Lily"; the latter has been condemned as unfit for further service, and the former cannot be used until facilities for docking her and renewing the whole of her bottom exist.

The old lifeboat slipway near the signal station has been removed and temporarily relaid close to the present workshops, where it has proved very useful.

The s.s. "Eko," bought from Messrs. Elder, Dempster, and Co. for the purpose for a nominal sum, has been dismantled and sunk off Magazine Point to assist in keeping up the foreshore. In addition to a variety of work executed in connection with dockyard requirements, several small jobs have been undertaken for outside firms, including the overhaul of Messrs. Miller Brothers' launch "Colonel."

122. List of steam craft in the Marine Department:—

—	Dimensions.	Draught.
S.W. "Maud"	133 ft. by 26 ft.	3 ft.
S.L. "May"	63 „ „ 9 „ 6 in.	3 „ 6 in.
S.L. "Evelyn"	60 „ „ 9 „	3 „ 6 „
S.L. "Ester"...	60 „ „ 9 „	3 „ 6 „
S.L. "Otho"...	54 „ „ 12 „	5 „
S.L. "Margaret"	70 „ „ 11 „	3 „ 6 „
S.L. "Ilo"	35 „ „ 7 „	3 „
S.P. "Constance"	30 „ „ 6 „ 6 in.	3 „
Steam Life Boat "Moseley" ...	57 „ „ 15 „	3 „ 6 „

The latter is one of the finest lifeboats in the world, and has already proved of the very greatest use in connection with the Lagos bar. She has a Yarrow water tube boiler and twin screws working in tunnels.

Constructional Work.

123. The steam launch "May" (63 ft. by 9 ft. 6 in.) has been built locally to replace the steam launch "Lily," condemned. Designed in the early part of the year and material ordered at once, work actually commenced on this craft in July, and by the end of the year she was all but completed for service.

The steam launch "Olive" (66 ft. by 12 ft.), intended for mail and transport service, was laid down in November. A barge (No. 4), for the Public Works Department, was completed and delivered in August. A 35 ft. canoe, with 4 in. light draught, was built for district use. Among smaller craft designed and built during the year may be mentioned an 18 ft. cutter, two 15 ft. dingies, and a 20 ft. Accra canoe (the latter not quite completed in December).

This is the first attempt at constructional work in the Colony, and in spite of the poor facilities at present available for such work it has been clearly shown that river craft of all kinds can be constructed at Lagos at much less cost, in an equally short time, and with workmanship but little inferior to that of an English building yard.

The Marine Department is fortunate in possessing the services of an expert designer and shipbuilder, and with plenty of skilled native labour available at all times, the outlook for the future in this most important branch is distinctly encouraging.

Clearing of Waterways.

124. The one big effort of the year in this direction has been the clearing of the waterways for steam launch navigation in the sudd region, which extends from Aboto, in the eastern district, as far as Siluko, and for some considerable distance down the Siluko River into Southern Nigeria. For the first time on record sudd cutting by machinery has been tried, and this, augmented by the use of hand sudd cutting saws on the same principle as those used with the machine, has proved most successful.

A close study of the currents in the different waterways throughout this area and their peculiarities at different seasons of the year enabled the officers in charge of this work to overcome every difficulty, and when work ceased in December not only were launches able to navigate everywhere with ease, but new routes had been opened up and distances thereby considerably shortened.

A good deal of explosive work was found necessary, principally in the narrower waterways, such as the Aboto Creek, where the sudd is not so much an obstacle to navigation as submerged snags and overhanging trees.

Lighthouse—Harbour and Bar Services.

125. The lighthouse has worked satisfactorily throughout the year. The harbour has received every attention, the buoyage being efficiently maintained and regulations generally enforced. A constant watch has been kept and all changes duly noted on the bar. The depth of water over the bar has averaged about 13 ft., but the draught of vessels entering or leaving the port has been much limited by a spit carrying 10 ft. 6 in. only at high water, lying across the inside channel, to leeward of the western breakers. Buoys have been laid as required to define the best channel and to mark the positions of the various wrecks. Observations of the height of the rollers, good and bad bars, tides and currents have also been made, and show that dredging work is possible, and a dredger has since been ordered to attempt the creation of a direct channel across the bar for deep draught vessels.

Mail Services.

126. The weekly launch service to Porto Novo has been satisfactorily maintained, 1,516 passengers being carried during

the year; and that to the eastern district has been considerably accelerated owing to the clearing of the waterways in the sudd region.

The various steam craft of the Department covered 28,940 miles, and 3,328 passengers were carried. The fares collected amounted to £558.

Ice Plant.

127. The ice-making machinery is in charge of the Marine Department. The erection of a new ice plant, capable of turning out 5 tons of ice per day, if necessary, was completed and machinery started in March. It has since worked most satisfactorily. The ice is sold to the public at ½*d.* per lb. (average), and this pays working expenses.

Staff.

128. The European staff consisted of the following during 1905:—

1 Marine Superintendent and Port Master,
1 Assistant Superintendent and Port Master,
1 Marine Officer,
1 Constructor,
1 Shipwright,
1 Superintendent Engineer,
1 Engineer,
1 Boilermaker,
1 Plater, and
1 Fitter.

MILITARY.

129. The authorised strength of the Lagos Battalion, West African Frontier Force, in 1905 was one major commanding, one captain second in command and adjutant, three captains company commanders, 12 lieutenants, and 513 rank and file.

130. The distribution of the Lagos Battalion of the West African Frontier Force, commanded by Major P. Maclear, was, as in 1904, viz.:—One company at Ibadan, furnishing one section at Saki and a small detachment at Ilesha; two companies at Lagos, furnishing a small detachment at Jebu Ode and also the depôt company at Lagos.

131. At the end of January, owing to a serious outbreak of guinea worn weakening the strength of the Southern Nigeria Regiment, "A" Company of the Lagos Battalion, under Captain Byrne and Lieut. Barrow, proceeded to Calabar and took

part in the Southern Ibibio Expedition and Ezza patrol, returning to Lagos at the end of May.

132. In October, owing to a rising taking place in the Kwale country in Southern Nigeria, two companies under Major Maclear proceeded to Sapele and took part in the operations, returning to Lagos in the middle of November.

133. Brigadier-General Morland visited Lagos and inspected the regiment, 12th until 23rd December.

New quarters for the European officers were in course of construction at the end of the year.

CIVIL POLICE.

134. The authorised establishment of the force was 492, which includes three European officers. The actual strength on the 31st December was 478. The total cost of maintaining the force was £15,849. The men recruited are chiefly Yorubas.

Distribution.

135. 350 men were employed in Lagos town and adjacent stations; the remainder were in the districts. The area of country over which the police work and have jurisdiction is approximately 3,500 square miles.

136. The whole force is armed with Martini-Enfield carbines and short sword bayonets; every man is exercised annually in a course of musketry.

Detective Branch.

137. This branch consists of one native superintendent and 14 non-commissioned officers and men, all plain clothes officers. The cost of maintenance was £756; the work accomplished by this sub-department was satisfactory.

Crime.

138. There was a decrease in crime, compared with the previous year, as the following figures will show:—

2,209 persons were apprehended for all offences against 2,473 in 1904, a decrease of 264. 1,510 cases were dealt with at the courts (53 of which were indictable), against 1,734 in 1904, a decrease of 224. Larceny and receiving was the predominant offence. Thirteen cases of murder were reported, and arrests made in all with the following results:—2, sentenced to be hanged; 1, imprisonment for life; 2, convicted of manslaughter; 5, cases dismissed for want of evidence in Lower

Courts; 2, discharged at Assizes; 1 (lunatic), ordered to be detained during His Majesty's pleasure.

Finger Print System.

139. In October this system was started for the identification of criminals, and 152 impressions and photographs were taken. It will, however, be some time before the real value of this system will be felt. It, however, acts as a deterrent to the commission of crime.

Fire Brigade.

140. This department, which is under the direction of the Chief of Police, consists of one native superintendent and 20 kroomen, is equipped with a Shand & Mason steam fire engine, 21 lengths of delivery hose, three lengths of suction hose, hose reel, and other fire appliances. The cost of maintenance was £470.

Seven calls were received during the year, and the total value of property destroyed was estimated at £240, which consisted chiefly of bamboo houses with thatch roofing. There was no loss of life.

LAGOS GOVERNMENT RAILWAY.

141. In the early part of the year under review sanction was accorded to the commencement of work on the extension of the railway beyond Ibadan. The survey was pushed forward rapidly, and completed for a distance of over 50 miles. Following close on this, the alignment was quickly determined and works started. At the close of the year good progress had been made. After long correspondence on the subject of gradient and curvature, sanction was obtained to adopt a limiting grade of 1 in 80, and 10-chain radius as the exceptional minimum for curves. By this means an easier and cheaper working road will be provided for train transport, which will save in recurring working charges very considerably more than the annual interest on the extra cost of construction, if any. The estimate provided for a capital outlay of £6,500 per mile for a line with grades of 1 in 50 and 7½ chain curves, and it is quite possible that this figure will not be exceeded for the improved line.

142. There was no change in the length of the line open to traffic during the year 1905, which, therefore, stood at 125·5 miles.

143. The general results of working compare as follows with the previously reported 12 months:—

——	1904.	1905.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Gross earnings	60,336	72,649	12,313
Working expenses	53,394	56,775	3,381
Net earnings	6,942	15,874	8,932

The results per open mile and per train mile run for 1905 compare equally favourably with the earlier years, both in regard to receipts and expenditure. The former improved by 20 per cent. and the latter are several points lower than the previous record. The net result is an increase from 13*d.* per ton mile realised in 1904 to 25*d.* in the net earnings for 1905. The improvement has occurred almost entirely in the goods traffic. The coaching receipts were stationary.

The total goods tonnage rose from 46,203 in the earlier period to 58,263 tons carried in the year under report. This increase occurred, partly in the stores carried for Government Departments, but more especially under railway materials carried for construction. There is an actual drop of 606 tons in the weight of public merchandise during the last year. The enhancement of rates, however, introduced from 1st January, 1905, prevented this shrinkage in tonnage from actually lessening the income from public merchandise, for the earnings from this source show an increase of £3,172. The explanation of the declension in public merchandise is that 1905 was a bad agricultural season. The results so far as the rail-borne trade was concerned indicate that the increased freight charges did not operate to restrict business.

144. The principal falling off occurred in the traffic in palm kernels and palm oil. Of the former, 1,435 tons less were carried than in the preceding year, and of oil 435 tons. In both cases the drop in the rail-borne trade was proportionately much less than the total trade declension shown by the trade statistics. The diminished business in the commodities mentioned was partially counterbalanced by improved traffic in other articles.

145. Government traffic contributed £1,556 more to the total income. This was due to the fact that under recent orders full tariff rates are now charged for such traffic, whereas formerly Government stores were carried at actual cost of haulage. The credits on account of carriage of construction materials realised £21,900. The whole of this material was for the Oshogbo Extension.

146. The influence of the British Cotton-Growing Association was felt in the large movements of cotton and cotton seed during the year. The business during 1906 promises to be much more important. Cotton is still carried free, the cost of so doing being credited to the railway at something below the actual cost of haulage, in order to assist the efforts of the association. It is understood that the British Cotton-Growing Association are arranging for the extension of ginning and pressing operations, and contemplate establishing an oil press to treat the seed as well.

147. Another commodity which is rising in importance is corn (maize), of which 2,500 tons were carried in 1905, as against 1,500 in the previous year, and only 200 tons in 1903.

148. The traffic possibilities and prospects are regarded as sufficiently hopeful. There is reason to think that the conditions of railway transit will soon be more fully appreciated by the rural population. The conditions of life must alter in process of time, and the population which now looks for little more than to satisfy the primary wants of nature begins to advance, attains a higher level of existence, and seeks a fuller measure of comfort. The extension of the railway to Oshogbo should be immediately followed by an improvement in the traffic. Action has been taken to provide local feeder roads along the extended line. The means of transport over these feeder roads has also been under consideration. The use of light motor lorries and the employment of trained draught oxen are among the proposals now being seriously considered. In regard to the latter mode of transport, the British Cotton-Growing Association is actively co-operating with the railway in these experiments, and the result, so far, has given satisfactory assurance of success.

149. The working expenses for the year under review amounted to £56,775, as compared with £53,394 in the earlier period. The increased expenditure is not disproportionate to the extra business done. For on the basis of gross ton mileage, the ultimate standard unit of transportation, the cost of movement works out at 623 pence per thousand gross ton miles, as against 722 pence in 1904. Among the causes operating in 1905 which favourably affected the cost of working, the cheaper price of coal is the chief. A coal contract with Messrs. Elder, Dempster, and Co. was obtained at 32*s.* 6*d.* per ton, as against the former rate of 45*s.* Of the old construction engines five have been rebuilt and placed in service with gratifying results. There were no engine failures during 1905. The trains, with but few exceptions, run to scheduled time, and the working results are considered satisfactory.

150. There were six accidents on the railway, involving either injury or death, resulting in two persons being killed

and four seriously injured; of these, none were passengers or railway employees, all the injured persons being trespassers on the line.

151. The quantitative value of work done by the railway is indicated in the following figures for the three contrasted periods:—

—	Year ended 31 Dec. 1903.	Year ended 31 Mar. 1905.	Year ended 31 Dec. 1905.
Train miles	118,299	126,709	151,401
Vehicle miles	809,679	884,088	1,181,111
Total number of passengers ...	100,063	116,267	106,972
Total tonnage of goods	37,885	46,203	58,263
Unit mileage	4,911,934	4,593,366	4,047,466
Ton mileage of goods	2,922,620	3,369,776	4,182,222
*Gross ton mileage	17,805,744	19,112,912	21,872,262
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Average receipts per open mile ...	408 8 9·2	408 15 1·7	579 17 6·6
Do. do. train per open mile	8 7·9	9 6·3	9 7·2
Do. do. passengers ...	2 5·4	2 4·7	2 6·6
Do. do. ton of public goods	1 1 8·3	1 0 7·4	1 2 10·1

* Freight and dead weight.

152. The financial result on the total capital applied for railway purposes proper represents a net return of about 1·5 per cent during the year 1905. The freight and passenger rates have been fixed at rates that are unremunerative on the present volume of traffic and much lower than is customary on West African lines, which have proved exceptionally costly to construct and require a highly-paid European staff one-third in excess of requirements in order to provide for the frequent absences on leave necessary to Europeans in this climate. The Government, while anxious to see the railway paying maintenance, interest, and sinking fund charges, is unwilling to increase the rates to accelerate the attainment of this desirable result, and looks more to the indirect revenue receipts owing to the development of the country by means of the railway than to direct railway receipts.

153. Statement of audited traffic for the year ending 31st December, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905:—

Period.	Coaching.				Goods.				Telegraph Earnings.			Sundries.			Total.		
	Public.			Government.			Public.			Government.*												
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Calendar year 1902...	13,884	11	5	1,490	14	5	23,608	13	7	3,693	12	3	245	10	6	388	16	0	43,311	18	2
Dc. do. 1903...	15,402	8	11	3,098	19	1	26,943	5	10	5,134	14	5	346	19	5	332	14	3	51,259	1	11
Do. do. 1904...	14,608	0	7	2,866	11	8	35,069	19	10	4,072	0	9	491	9	4	605	8	0	57,707	10	2
Do. do. 1905...	14,450	3	8	3,336	19	0	38,960	19	6	14,509	2	11	535	8	8	856	8	5	72,649	2	2
Total	58,345	4	7	10,787	4	2	124,582	18	9	27,409	10	4	1,619	7	11	2,183	6	8	224,927	12	5

	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
*Government Stores	886	1,137	1,010	2,679
Railway Construction Material.—				
(*a*) Oshogbo Extension ...	—	—	—	3,836
(*b*) Open Lines	2,808	3,998	3,062	7,994
Total	3,694	5,135	4,072	14,509

154. The senior administrative staff of the railway consisted of:—

General Manager—Mr. F. Bedford Glasier.
Deputy Manager—Mr. W. Butler-Wright.
Locomotive Superintendent—Mr. T. H. M. Bonell
Maintenance Engineer—Mr. J. H. Black.
Accountant—Mr. A. G. Hubbard.
Chief Storekeeper—Mr. F. S. Cochrane.

ADMINISTRATION.

155. The Governor, Sir W. Egerton, K.C.M.G., left the Colony on leave of absence in July, and the Government was administered during the remainder of the year by Mr. J. J. Thorburn.

156. The Honourable C. H. Harley-Moseley, Colonial Secretary, left the Colony in January and has been placed on the retired list on completion of nearly 25 years' service, eleven of which were in the service of this Colony.

157. The Honourable E. A. Speed, Attorney-General, acted as Colonial Secretary from January to the end of the year.

158. The Audit Department was amalgamated with that of Southern Nigeria, and an Auditor for the combined Administration was appointed in May, together with a considerable increase in staff, to enable the Department to more adequately cope with the increasing work and the necessity for a greater degree of supervision than had hitherto been possible.

159. A new post, that of Commercial Intelligence Officer, was created, and Mr. C. A. Birtwistle was appointed in February.

160. Two additional surveyors were appointed to the Lands and Survey Department to enable the survey of the Colony to be dealt with more effectively.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

161. From a general standpoint the history of the Colony for the year 1905 presents no striking novelties; on the other hand, the general trend of affairs points distinctly towards progress and expansion. During the year the great advantage derived by the Colony owing to its geographical position has begun to make itself felt. This is due in the first instance to the fact that the town of Lagos is beginning to assume the character of a large trading entrepôt, the up-country native traders realizing the advantage derived by bringing down produce for immediate shipment.

162. In connection with the development of the up-country trade, active consideration has been extended to the state of the Lagos bar. The latter forms a serious obstacle to making the port of Lagos unquestionably the most important and largest along the coast, and the question of adopting measures to remove this obstacle, although mooted for a considerable time, was not actively entertained until this year. The result is the proposal to work a dredger, which shall maintain a channel that will allow ocean-going steamers to discharge within the lagoon port of Lagos. Hitherto all discharge and loading of cargo has taken place either immediately outside the bar or at Forcados, which is the next southward port along the coast. This entails the service of a subsidiary number of steamers, which again incurs not only considerable delay in all transhipping, but very great inconvenience and risk not only to cargo but passengers. The necessity for attending to the needs of passengers has been making itself acutely felt.

163. A further point of interest which during the year has received attention is the construction of roads. In common with all native tribes along the coast, the use of vehicular traffic is utterly unknown to the native of the Lagos hinterland, owing undoubtedly to the fact that the bush paths have for years proved sufficient to the needs of the country. The present development, however, every day goes to prove the necessity for roads capable of bearing vehicular traffic. In the town of Lagos the systematic laying down of metalled thoroughfares has been rigorously and most successfully pushed and hand traction encouraged. Experiments are also being made with a view to introducing the bullock as a draught animal. These have so far been successful, and it is anticipated that the native will in time understand the advantages of vehicular traffic when they become more apparent to him.

164. The telegraph construction initiated during the year in conjunction with that of Southern Nigeria will prove invaluable in time, in spite of the difficulties experienced in providing an efficient native telegraph staff.

165. The railway extension to Oshogbo is another successful item of progress which is of interest, as is also the clearing of waterways, which inaugurated the systematic traffic of launch services between the Colony and Southern Nigeria.

166. A most satisfactory experiment in the matter of boat construction was successfully put through by the Marine Department, and is useful in showing the possibility of turning out efficient results with native artisan work strictly under European supervision. It is, moreover, worthy of note that the constructional work done by the Marine Department of the Colony is unique of its kind on the coast.

W. FOSBERY,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

10th September, 1906.

APPENDIX I.

Statement of Assets and Liabilitils on 31st December, 1905.

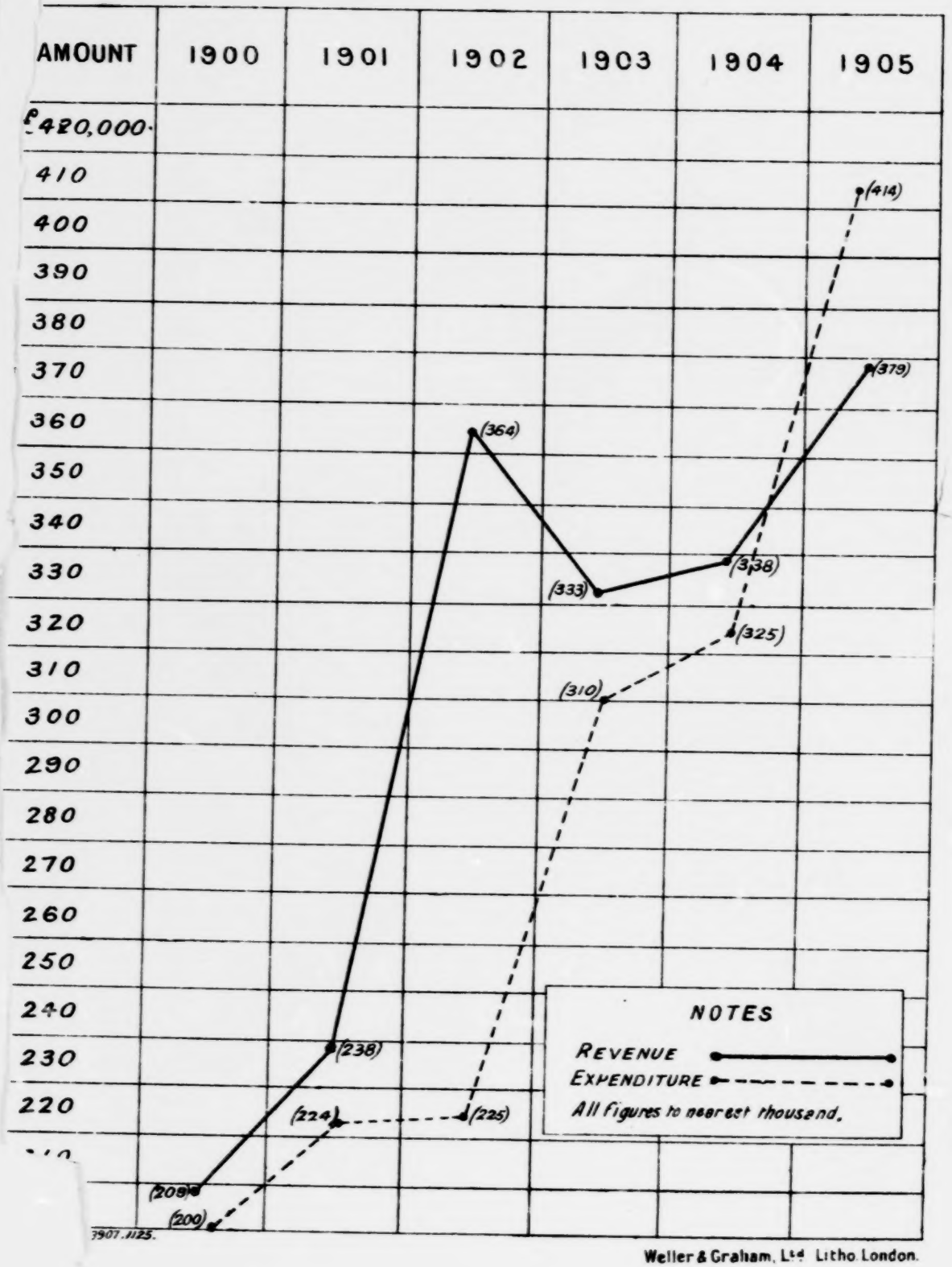
Liabilities.	Amount.			Assets.	Amount.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Deposits, viz.—				Cash in Treasury, 31st December, 1905.	54 18 7		
Savings Bank	25,183 14 2			Sub-Accountants' Balances, 31st December, 1905.	1,022 9 6	1,077 8 1	
Bank, British West Africa ...	10,000 0 0			Unadjusted Balance Railway Open Lines Account.		6,747 17 9	
Customs Duties	2,447 17 2			Unadjusted Ibadan Oshogbo Imprest Account.		64,171 4 11	
Unclaimed Goods	598 3 11			Advances due to the Colony, viz.—			
Sundries	8,857 11 0	47,087 6 3		Sierra Leone Government ...	930 11 5		
Deposits, Railway Account		4,501 18 1		Northern Nigeria Government...	6,598 10 7		
Advances Overpaid		851 12 3		Southern Nigeria „ ...	8,649 5 6		
Due to Bank, British West Africa (Account Overpayment).		3,196 19 8		Brick Works	2,627 11 1		
Due to Crown Agents for Colonies		5,810 19 2		Sundries	6,011 12 6	24,817 11 1	
Due from Colony on Loan Account		474,012 13 4		Advances, Railway Account ...		5,827 8 6	
		535,461 8 9		Deposit Overpaid		15 0	
Excess of Assets		262,260 18 2		Suspense Account (Ebute Meta Works).		1,833 1 7	
		797,722 6 11		Investments—			
				General	44,904 16 0		
				Steamer Depreciation Fund ...	7,895 10 4		
				Bank, British West Africa ...	10,000 0 0		
				Savings Bank	22,350 0 0	85,150 6 4	
				Advance to Crown Agents from Loan Funds.		608,000 0 0	
				Drafts and Remittances		96 13 8	
						797,722 6 11	

from all sources £1,889,426 2*s.* 5*d.* Railway Construction Account 1895, 31st December, 1905, £1,415,413 9*s.* 1*d.*

Appendix II.

LAGOS.

CHART SHEWING ACTUAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE CALENDAR YEARS 1900 TO 1905.



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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
480	Basutoland	1904–1905
481	Ceylon	1904
482	St. Lucia	"
483	Ashanti	1905
484	Bermuda	"
485	Hong Kong	"
486	St. Helena	"
487	Weihaiwei	"
488	Gold Coast	"
489	Seychelles	"
490	Falkland Islands	1904–1905
491	Gambia	1905
492	Jamaica	"
493	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ...	1905
494	Ceylon	"
495	Turks and Caicos Islands...	"
496	Bahamas	1905–1906
497	Barbados	"
498	Malta	1905
499	British Central Africa Protectorate	1905–1906
500	Colonial Survey Committee	"
501	Grenada	1905
502	Straits Settlements	"
503	Gibraltar	"
504	Trinidad and Tobago	1905–1906
505	St. Lucia	1905
506	Mauritius	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.
31	Northern Nigeria	Cotton, &c.
32	Do. do.	Mineral Survey.
33	Southern Nigeria	Do.
34	Montserrat	Agricultural Industry.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 512.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

REPORT FOR 1905.

(For Report for 1904, *see* No. 459.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1906.

LONDON:
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No. 512.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

(For Report for 1904, *see* No. 459.)

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Ilorin,
19th September, 1906.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Annual Report of the Southern Nigeria Protectorate for the year 1905.

I have, &c.,

W. EGERTON,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Elgin, P.C., K.G., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
&c., &c., &c.

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REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1905

FINANCIAL.

1. The change in the financial year has necessitated the accounts being made up for the nine months ended 31st December, 1905. The revenue for this period received from all sources amounted to £443,420, which gives a revenue at the rate of £591,226 per annum, while the expenditure for the same period was £441,491, or at the rate of £588,654 per annum. It is considered best to deal with the actual figures for the calendar year, which will allow a clearer explanation. The actual revenue received during 1905 was £572,065, and the expenditure for the same period £581,927.

Revenue.

2. The following statement shows the actual revenue received yearly under the various heads during the past five calendar years 1901-5:—

Heads of Revenue.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs Duties	261,744	405,689	399,118	519,676	535,825
Licences, &c.	3,848	5,484	4,083	5,669	9,290
Fees, &c.	7,068	10,093	8,440	9,825	16,103
Postal Revenue	2,881	4,759	4,152	3,956	3,983
Interest	2,002	3,493	3,545	2,804	3,609
Miscellaneous	1,819	8,065	7,522	8,082	3,255
Totals	279,362	437,583	426,860	550,012	572,065

The revenue for the year exceeded that of the previous year by £22,053; this increase is comparatively small, but when it is considered that the output of the staple products—palm oil and palm kernels—was seriously affected by the unfavourable rainfall, and that the revenue is practically all derived from Customs duties, the inference to be drawn is that commercial progress is continuing satisfactorily.

3. Of the total increase of £22,053 over the revenue of the previous year, Customs duties contributed £16,149, or 73·2 per cent., the amounts collected being as follows:—

—	1904.	1905.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£		
Imports:—				
Specific Duty	442,181	459,427	17,246	—
Ad valorem Duty ...	69,136	69,990	854	—
Export Duty	8,358	6,407	—	1,951
			18,100	1,951

Net Increase, £16,149.

The particulars of Customs duties received on imported spirits, as compared with the previous year, are given in paragraph 10.

4. The increase of £3,621 under licences, &c., is attributable to the increased receipts in the issue of licences for rubber and the revenue derived from royalties on exported timber in lieu of export duty.

5. There is a comparatively large increase of £6,278 under the head "Fees, &c.," due to increased sales of Government property, as well as to an increase in the amount of work done by Government Departments for the public; also to contributions from native courts towards expenditure incurred on their behalf for salaries, &c., under Head 21 of "Expenditure—Aborigines."

6. Postal revenue shows a slight increase of £27 compared with the previous year, and there were increased transactions in the money order and postal order services.

7. The increase of £805 under the head of "Interest" is due to increased investments, and to arrears being credited in this period.

8. The decrease of £4,827 under the head of "Miscellaneous" is caused by large recoveries in the previous year from Northern Nigeria and Crown Agents, for payment of troops engaged on the Kano expedition, and rebates of freight, amounting in all to over £4,000.

Legislation affecting Revenue.

9. The following changes affecting the revenue have taken place during the year 1905 in the Customs tariff:—

(i.) Proclamation No. 3 of 1905, which came into operation from 1st March, 1905, amended "The Customs Tariff Proclamation, 1904," by providing—

(*a*) an increase of 1*s.* 0½*d.* a gallon on proof spirits, making the duty 3*s.* 6*d.* for every imperial gallon of spirits 12½ degrees under proof where the strength can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer, and an additional duty of ½*d.* the imperial gallon for every degree or part of a degree in cases in which the spirit was stronger than 12½ degrees under proof (Public Notice No. 3 of 1905 substituted proof for 12½ degrees under proof in assessing duty on spirits shipped before 16th March, 1905);

(*b*) a duty of 4*s.* instead of 3*s.* on sweetened spirits;

(*c*) the exemption from duty of oil of any kind imported for use as a motor power for engines or machinery of any kind and not for lighting purposes.

(ii.) The Customs Tariff Amendment Proclamation, 1905, which came into operation on 1st September last, had the following effects:—

(*a*) the duty on firearms was increased from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* each;

(*b*) the Schedule of Exemptions from Customs duties was added to as follows:—

Fresh butter and milk, not tinned; harness and saddlery; non-potable spirits for use as motor power for engines; telephone materials; wheeled vehicles of all kinds and their accessories; winches, derricks, and cranes, whole or in part, and the machinery necessary for working the same.

10. The effect in the change of the duty on spirits was to increase the revenue from imported spirits, although the importations for consumption showed a considerable diminution in quantity:—

—	Gallons.	Duty.
		£ *s.* *d.*
April—December, 1904	1,651,512	247,572 19 0
April—December, 1905	1,493,906	269,457 6 3
	— 157,606	+ 21,884 7 3

The decreased importation was not caused by the larger higher duty, but by the bad palm oil season. Owing to the higher price of the oil, it exchanged—notwithstanding the increase of duty—for a larger quantity of spirit per puncheon, but owing to the scarcity of oil the natives were able to purchase less spirits.

11. The considerable additions to the list of exemptions consist chiefly of articles used in connection with the industrial development of the country.

EXPENDITURE.

12. The following statement shows the expenditure for the five calendar years 1901-5 and estimate for 1906:—

Head of Expenditure.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Estimate 1906.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Pensions and Gratuities ...	1,120	1,184	2,828	2,539	3,127	2,679
High Commissioner	4,489	4,360	4,413	3,432	3,582	4,191
Secretary	1,996	3,152	3,741	4,780	5,581	6,659
Political and Administrative...	24,057	27,711	32,276	34,398	40,164	48,438
Judicial	3,940	3,120	3,409	3,724	4,482	5,322
Legal and Registration ...	—	893	1,109	1,183	922	1,172
Surveys	1,475	1,733	2,165	1,870	3,246	2,209
Treasury...	3,191	3,749	4,693	5,339	6,050	7,035
Customs	8,126	9,031	9,602	10,176	12,963	14,495
Postal and Telegraphs ...	3,963	4,148	4,902	8,436	8,843	15,692
Printing	1,935	2,376	2,817	2,773	3,722	4,638
Audit	765	1,019	1,204	1,456	1,578	2,651
Force, Southern Nigeria Regiment.	53,921	60,500	72,497	64,411	66,229	69,964
Marine	53,296	64,338	61,291	66,396	63,150	80,075
Prisons	11,205	6,915	10,153	16,719	18,646	20,059
Civil Police	—	3,246	7,839	9,698	12,107	18,867
Forestry and Botanical ...	2,986	3,002	4,909	7,482	8,444	11,195
Medical	12,580	15,842	18,488	20,899	22,894	28,023
Sanitary	1,335	1,295	1,857	1,789	2,523	3,121
Transport	14,763	18,477	19,361	25,514	31,583	31,268
Aborigines	10,214	9,829	12,978	12,844	9,344	14,097
Education	459	1,662	2,320	3,110	6,674	9,580
Miscellaneous	39,148	53,075	35,240	33,326	40,159	28,836
Contribution to Northern Nigeria.	33,785	25,714	38,500	57,500	57,500	60,000
Public Works Department ...	5,896	7,553	9,506	11,375	13,915	16,280
Public Works, Annually Recurrent.	6,443	7,704	14,964	9,657	11,862	9,328
Public Works, Roads Construction.	—	—	—	—	—	2,250
Roads and Bridges, Annually Recurrent.	—	—	—	—	818	1,375
Works and Buildings Extraordinary.	38,802	52,570	64,300	117,902	89,568	70,990
Roads and Bridges Extraordinary.	—	—	—	—	2,873	16,475
Posts and Telegraphs Extraordinary.	—	—	—	—	17,894	18,846
Marine Extraordinary ...	—	—	—	—	11,484	8,000
Totals	339,890	394,197	447,862	538,728	581,927	627,800

13. The expenditure for the year exceeded that of the previous year by £43,199, and exceeded the revenue received by £9,862.

14. The increase of £588 under the head "Pensions" is due to the gratuities paid to several officers and additions to the pension list.

15. The increase of £150 under the head "High Commissioner" is due to the office being unfilled during a portion of the year 1904.

16. An increase of £801 in the Secretary's Department was caused by the necessary additions to the staff required to cope with the increased work of the administration.

17. Increased expenditure was incurred in all the Departments by additions to staff, both European and native, to enable the Government to provide for the administration of the increased area brought under effective control, the extension of the Education Department, and the large expenditure on public works.

18. The head "Marine" shows a decrease due to the transfer to "Marine Extraordinary" of the cost of new craft which used to appear under the former head.

19. The financial assistance rendered to the Government of Northern Nigeria was increased during the year from £50,000 to £60,000.

20. The increase under "Miscellaneous" of £6,833 is due to the payment of £4,528 to Northern Nigeria for the expeditionary force used in connection with the Aro expedition of 1902.

21. The apparent decrease of £28,334 in "Works and Buildings Extraordinary" is caused by transfers from that head of expenditure now shown under "Roads and Bridges," "Posts and Telegraphs Extraordinary," and "Marine Extraordinary."

Assets and Liabilities.

22. The financial position of the Protectorate was strengthened by the excess of assets over liabilities being increased in the nine months ending 31st December, 1905, by £2,000. It stood at £180,809 on that date.

Of the £180,809 excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, £137,664 is represented by investments, but of this amount £20,374 is invested and appropriated for specific purposes.

23. The following is the statement of assets and liabilities on 31st December, 1905:—

Liabilities.	Amount.			Assets.	Amount.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Deposits due by the Protectorate ...		50,624 13 8	Balances of the undermentioned Accounts :—				
Drafts drawn on the Crown Agents (not yet paid).			Local Cash Account	43,943 18 6			
Amounts due on Sinking and Depreciation Funds.			Crown Agents' Cash Account ...	4,426 18 11			
Coin repatriation Fund	655 15 3				48,370 17 5		
Yacht "Ivy" Depreciation Fund ...	17,718 14 3		Advances due to the Protectorate ...		14,952 13 5		
Do. do. Repair Sinking Fund...	2,000 0 0		Remittances to C.A. (not yet collected)	19,410 15 4			
		20,374 9 6	Do. do. (in transit) ...	22,524 2 3			
			Do. to Coast (in transit) ...				
			Do. between Chests (in transit)	8,885 7 8			
Total Liabilities		70,999 3 2			50,820 5 3		
Excess of Assets over Liabilities		180,809 2 5	Investments :—				
			Surplus Funds	117,290 0 0			
			Coin Repatriation Fund	655 15 3			
			Yacht "Ivy" Depreciation Fund...	17,718 14 3			
			Do. do. Repair Sinking Fund	2,000 0 0			
					137,664 9 6		
			Total Assets		251,808 5 7		
Total		251,808 5 7	Total		251,808 5 7		

Deposits.

24. The amount held on 31st December, 1905, in favour of depositors stood at £50,625, made up as follows:—

Other Governments	£22,507
Native Councils and Minor Courts	1,439
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	658
Force Accounts	7,844
Other Accounts	18,177

The last item is made up of school funds, workmen's accounts, and estate accounts principally.

Advances.

25. The advances due to the Government on 31st December, 1905, amounted to £14,953, made up as follows:—

Other Governments	£10,628
Native Councils and Minor Court	155
Force Accounts	308
Other Accounts	3,862

Progress.

26. The attached chart shows the constant and rapid growth of the revenue and expenditure during the last ten years, and is an indication of the progress which has been made by the country. During the past five years there has been practically no increase in taxation, the revenue is almost entirely raised from duties on imports, which have, on the whole, not been increased. As new areas are opened up and brought under control, the expenditure to provide additional staff, offices, &c., and to improve the conditions of the country, has been met from the revenue derived from the increased trade.

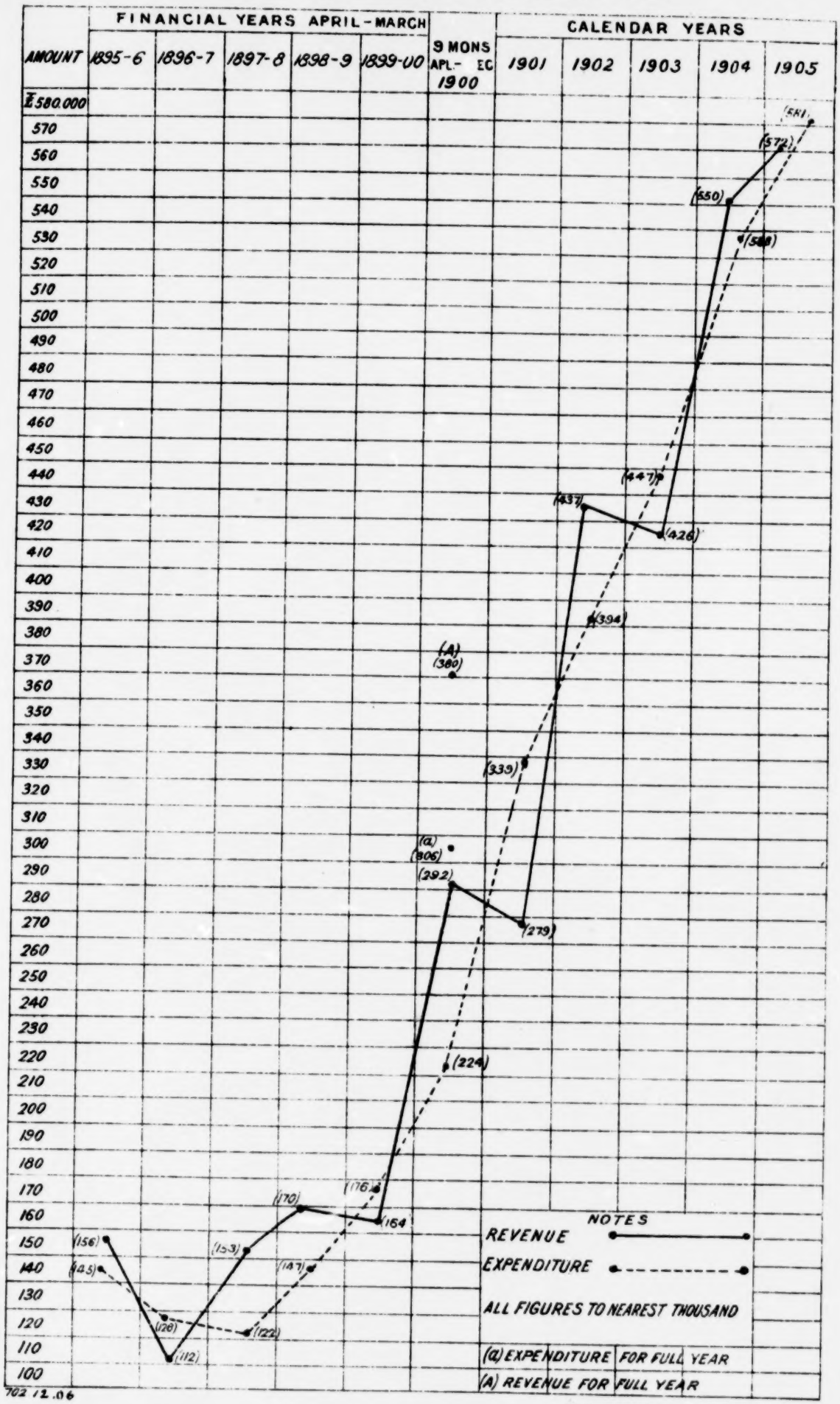
Currency and Banking.

27. Brass rods, wires, manillas, and cowries are used as currency by the natives, and are accepted as legal tender in the parts of the country in which such currency has always been accepted. The exchange is regulated by law, and further importations have been prohibited.

28. The currency and legal tender is British sterling. Silver circulates more freely and widely as time goes on, but copper continues to make small progress, and the currency continues in a transition stage. The question of a uniform subsidiary currency for Northern and Southern Nigeria is now under consideration.

29. The Bank of Nigeria is established at Calabar and Burutu, on the Forcados River, but up to the present, arrangements have not been made to utilize its services for Government business.

CHART SHEWING ACTUAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE DURING THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL 1895 TO 31ST DECEMBER 1905



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TRADE.

Imports and Exports.

30. The following table shows the total value of imports and exports and the duties collected therefrom, and the distribution throughout the Protectorate for the year ended 31st December, 1905, compared with the previous year :—

Station.	Imports.				Exports.				Total Trade.		Duty.			
	1904.		1905.		1904.		1905.				Imports.		Exports.	
	Commercial and Government.	Specie.	Commercial and Government.	Specie.	Commercial and Government.	Specie.	Commercial and Government.	Specie.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Calabar Division—														
Calabar and Obokum ..	335,490	25,275	358,470	21,443	351,594	—	313,440	1,459	712,359	694,812	103,777	106,199	—	—
Ikang	—	—	6,727	—	—	—	3,143	—	—	9,870	—	2,314	—	—
	335,490	25,275	365,197	21,443	351,594	—	316,583	1,459	712,359	704,682	103,777	108,513	—	—
Eastern Division—														
Opobo and Egwanga ..	267,176	3,700	262,409	19,482	361,220	—	350,700	—	632,096	632,591	114,540	115,657	1	5
Bonny and Bakana ..	95,513	628	100,963	3,351	99,971	180	101,207	650	196,292	206,171	39,597	39,221	11	—
Degama and Buguma ..	116,089	2,506	89,273	5,766	110,420	—	136,791	—	229,015	231,880	47,782	44,038	—	—
Brass	84,166	530	31,808	400	119,442	—	83,215	—	204,132	117,818	39,179	21,505	1	—
Akassa	—	—	20,980	—	—	—	11,415	—	—	—	—	10,764	—	—
	562,938	7,364	505,433	28,999	691,053	180	653,328	650	1,261,535	1,188,410	241,098	231,185	13	5
Western Division—														
Forcados and Onitsha ..	403,692	198,450	453,265	138,990	379,844	—	419,508	—	981,986	1,011,763	92,602	110,806	3	—
Warri	113,849	700	117,588	2,100	100,426	—	150,802	—	214,975	270,490	32,227	38,880	—	—
Sapele and Benin River	138,761	5,950	113,877	6,644	195,620	—	168,610	—	340,331	289,131	43,180	40,463	11,284	6,401
	656,302	205,100	684,730	147,734	675,890	—	738,920	—	1,537,292	1,571,384	168,009	190,149	11,287	6,401
Total	1,554,730	237,739	1,555,360	198,176	1,718,537	180	1,708,831	2,109	3,511,186	3,464,476	512,884	529,847	11,300	6,406

N.B —The Government Importations for Northern Nigeria are included in these accounts.

General Trade.

31. The total trade, compared with 1904, shows a decrease in volume of £46,709, caused by a decrease in the importation of specie amounting to £39,563 and a falling off in the value of exports of £9,705.

32. The falling off in the value of exports is due to the partial failure of the palm products, which has considerably affected the output of palm oil and kernels, the principal exports of the Protectorate.

33. There is a slight increase in the value of imports, in spite of the decrease in the palm products, and so far as importations are concerned, the year is considered a satisfactory one.

34. The falling off is principally noticeable in the eastern division and Calabar, the country most affected by the partial failure of the palm products. The western division trade returns show an increase, due to a part of the Brass and Akassa trade going by way of the Niger, instead of through those ports, and also to the fact that the returns of the division include the whole of the Northern Nigeria trade and are not so much affected by the failure of the palm crops as those of the other divisions.

General Revenue.

35. The increase in import duties during the year, amounting to £16,963, is chiefly due to the rise in the duty on spirits, and partially to increased importations of Dane guns, gunpowder, kerosene, and cotton goods:—

Import Revenue,	1904	£512,884
,, ,,	1905	529,847

36. The decrease of £4,894 in export duties is due to the falling off in the export of timber and to the change in the Forestry Regulations:—

Export Revenue,	1904	£11,300
,, ,,	1905	6,406

Imports.

37. The quantity and value of the principal articles of import for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1905, compared with the result of the year previous, are shown in Appendix A.

38. The following statement shows the total value of imports into the Protectorate, and the value of the imports from the

various countries during the last two years, exclusive of specie, and the increase or decrease during the present year:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Germany.	Holland.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£
1905	1,555,360	1,204,545	160,654	150,146	40,015
1904	1,554,730	1,214,820	168,056	147,245	24,609
	(+) 630	(−) 10,275	(−) 7,402	(+) 2,901	(+) 15,406

(+) = increase. (−) = decrease.

39. The total value of imports is practically the same as in the preceding year, but the value of importations from the United Kingdom, from whence over 77 per cent. of the import trade was derived, has fallen off nearly 1 per cent. from the previous year. Germany took over 10 per cent., and shows a falling off compared with the previous year of over 4 per cent.

40. Holland has taken more than 9½ per cent. of the trade, and shows an increase of nearly 2 per cent. on the previous year. Other countries, taking nearly 3 per cent., show a considerable increase on the previous year, caused by trade goods for Ikang being brought from the adjacent German port of Rio del Rey, and the increased importations of kerosene from America and kola nuts from the Gold Coast Colony.

Decreases.

41. The following table shows the quantity and value of the principal articles in which there have been decreases during the past year:—

—	1903.		1904.		1905.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Gin and Geneva ... galls.	1,455,664	134,271	1,866,819	176,153	1,687,159	159,974
Spirits, unenumerated ... ... ,,	2,510	1,937	3,012	1,866	2,037	1,861
Salt .. .. cwt.	427,340	32,422	510,056	38,565	418,310	31,654
Tobacco, unmanufactured ... ... lbs.	3,001,486	70,580	3,826,566	85,352	3,225,950	69,507
Guns other than Danes ... ... No.	2,380	8,638	2,419	5,881	768	3,965

Spirits.

42. While "Gin and Geneva" and "Spirits Unenumerated" show a decrease compared with the previous year of 180,635 gallons, other spirits show an increase of 9,573 gallons, the net decrease in the importation of spirits is therefore 171,062 gallons. The decrease in the importation of gin is attributed to the partial failure of the palm products.

Salt.

43. Salt shows a decrease of 91,746 cwts., or about 18 per cent. on the previous year's importations. Almost the entire falling off is in the importations at Akassa and Forcados—the Niger ports; the importations are even smaller this year than in 1903.

Tobacco.

44. Tobacco shows a decrease of 600,635 lbs. compared with 1904, and an increase of 224,456 lbs. compared with 1903; the decrease is due to the depression in the export of palm products during the year.

Guns other than Danes.

45. The decrease in the importations of guns other than Danes is due to the small importations by the Government during the year under report. The figures for the three years are:—

—	1903.	1904.	1905.
Government	2,038	1,183	286
Others	342	1,236	482
Total	2,380	2,419	768

Miscellaneous.

46. There are decreases in the importations of steam launches, boats and canoes, telegraph and telephone materials, uniforms and accoutrements, engine stores, and leather goods, which are also attributed to the diminution of the Government importations under these heads.

Beads.

47. This head has decreased by £1,891 compared with the previous year, but it is noticed that there is a slight increase of the importation from the United Kingdom and a comparatively large decrease of that from Germany.

Fish, Salted and Cured.

48. This is the only article of food, except salt, which shows a decrease compared with previous years. The figures for the past three years are:—

1903.	1904.	1905.
£ 1,994	£ 2,844	£ 1,391

Woollen Goods.

49. This is the only item of clothing that shows a falling off, and when the figures for the three years are compared, it is seen that the decrease is merely a fluctuation:—

1903.	1904.	1905.
£ 9,549	£ 12,787	£ 11,357

Coopers' Stores and Bags.

50. There is a considerable decrease in Coopers' stores under these heads, due to the stocks on hand not having been used up owing to the shortage in palm oil production. The figures for the last three years are:—

—	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£
Bags and Sacks	10,931	13,502	13,351
Coopers' Stores	83,221	83,479	74,862

Miscellaneous Decreases.

51. There are a few other heads under which decreases have occurred, but these call for no special comment.

Increases—Food Stuffs.

52. There have been continuing increases in every article of food, except salt and fish (salted and cured).

53. The following table shows the value of the importations of the principal articles during the last three years:—

Article.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£
Beef and Pork	9,298	10,796	11,891
Bread and Biscuits	6,080	7,514	11,071
Flour	2,348	2,717	3,379
Poultry	256	574	978
Provisions	42,257	50,075	52,256
Rice	20,018	30,967	38,562
Sugar	3,451	6,394	6,471
Total	83,708	109,037	124,608

54. It will be seen that the increase compared with 1904 is £15,571, and compared with 1903, £40,900.

55. So far as native produce is concerned, kola nuts imported from the Gold Coast Colony show an increased importation, and this may be attributed to the transport facilities which have been provided, allowing native traders to take this product up the Niger for sale in Northern Nigeria. It is expected that the increase will continue.

56. The figures below show the value and quantity of the importations for the last three years of kola nuts:—

1903.		1904.		1905.	
lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
77,200	2,341	95,284	3,353	310,768	8,757

Clothing.

57. Large increases have taken place under all the various articles of clothing imported, except woollen goods, which in this climate cannot be expected to make any rapid progress, and uniforms and accoutrements imported for Government use.

58. The importations are shown in the following table for three years:—

Article.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£
Cotton Goods	295,481	356,976	368,527
Silk Goods	10,944	19,223	21,382
Wearing Apparel	30,247	43,999	46,261
Total	336,672	420,198	436,170

The total increase compared with 1904 is £15,972, and with 1903 the increase is £99,498.

Umbrellas.

59. There is a comparatively large increase under this head of £1,280 compared with 1904, and £6,393 compared with 1903. The value of the importations for three years is shown below:—

1903.	1904.	1905.
£	£	£
5,830	10,943	12,223

Housing, &c.

60. The following items show increases, the value of the importations for the last three years being:—

Article.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£
Building Materials ...	76,623	70,443	75,562
Furniture	6,911	6,403	9,302
Glassware	1,837	1,856	2,619
Hardware, &c.	62,235	74,443	77,548
Total	147,606	153,145	165,031

The total increases are £11,886 compared with 1904, and £17,425 with 1903.

Kerosene.

61. This article continues to show a large increased importation, which is expected to continue, as proper lamps are brought

into use and the native palm oil lamp—where that is used—replaced. The quantity and value of the article imported year by year for three years are as under:—

1903.		1904.		1905.	
Gallonage.	Value.	Gallonage.	Value.	Gallonage.	Value.
291,238	£ 8,577	378,127	£ 12,564	448,559	£ 13,221

Cigars and Cigarettes.

62. These items continue to show increases as under:—

Article.	1903.		1904.		1905.	
	Quantity.	Value	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Cigars	355,000	1,116	332,350	1,045	503,691	1,560
Cigarettes ...	2,688,600	2,088	3,820,540	2,828	4,851,020	3,253

General.

63. The continued increase in the above-mentioned items, and in a year when there has occurred a partial failure in the output of the staple export, seems to show that the condition of comfort, generally, in the Protectorate is improving.

Gunpowder and Dane Guns.

64. There have been marked increases in these articles—over 10 per cent. in the case of powder, and over 70 per cent. in the case of guns, compared with the previous year's importations. The increase is attributed to importations in anticipation of a rise in duty.

The figures for three years are:—

Article.	1903.		1904.		1905.	
	Quantity.	Value	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Gunpowder lbs.	226,790	2,903	939,276	12,259	1,036,937	13,588
Dane Guns No.	7,167	2,699	8,530	2,998	14,578	5,289

Exports.

65. The quantity and value of the principal articles exported during the year, compared with the previous year, are shown in Appendix B.

66. The following statement shows the total value of exports from the Protectorate, and the total value to various countries, during the last two years, exclusive of specie, and the increase and decrease in each case:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Germany.	France.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£
1905	1,708,832	1,117,264	523,678	34,372	33,518
1904 ...	1,718,537	1,112,966	496,647	66,531	42,393
	(—) 9,705	(+) 4,298	(+) 27,031	(—) 32,159	(—) 8,875

(+) = Increase. (—) = Decrease.

67. Over 65 per cent. of the export trade went to the United Kingdom, Germany taking about 30 per cent., and France 2 per cent.

68. The increase in the exports to the United Kingdom is due to the large quantity of rubber exported to that country during the year, compared with the previous year.

69. The increase in the exports to Germany is due to the increase in value of palm kernels exported, although the quantity was less, and also to the increase in the quantity of rubber exported to that country.

70. The decrease in the exports to France is due to the falling off in the output of palm oil.

Decreases.

71. The following table shows the quantity and value for three years of the principal items in which decreases have occurred:—

—		1903.		1904.		1905.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			£		£		£
Palm Oil ...	gallons	12,018,075	629,709	13,028,733	710,056	11,391,476	678,844
Palm Kernels	tons	68,330	526,738	70,500	597,953	63,645	599,010
Timber ...	—	—	32,028	—	59,133	—	38,695
*Shea Nuts ...	tons	—	—	1,220	18,675	1,356	12,189
Gums	lbs.	671,100	6,443	631,568	5,408	323,915	3,881
Coffee	,,	50,342	524	41,633	301	7,066	65
Raw Cotton ...	,,	123	1	285,639	2,501	96,306	245
Ivory	,,	18,274	5,735	11,763	3,469	7,363	2,263

*Not shown in 1903.

Palm Products.

72. The falling off in the export of palm products was caused by the crop being not as large as usual owing to the small and unevenly distributed rainfall.

Timber.

73. The falling off in timber is partly accounted for by the prices in the home market, where inferior logs did not sell at profitable prices.

During the years 1904 and 1905 some of the timber was reckoned by the log and some by the cubic foot, and it is difficult to state the extent of the falling off, but, having regard to the values, it is considered that the decrease was not inconsiderable.

Cotton.

74. The work done during the year in connection with the cultivation of cotton has probably been more valuable than in previous years, although the output has not been as large as that for the year 1904. Several causes have adversely affected the export returns for 1905. It was expected that cotton could be grown extensively on the Sobo plains, and greater attention was devoted to that plantation than to other parts of the Protectorate, but the venture proved to be a complete failure; from that time the cultivation of cotton has been undertaken on more scientific principles to ascertain by experiment the most suitable conditions under which the best marketable cotton can be produced. It is anticipated that the output of cotton during the present year from the plantations further north will be better than in the past. The Northern Nigeria returns are included in those of Southern Nigeria, and at the end of 1905 there was a quantity of cotton at Lokoja which could not be shipped owing to the low water in the Niger, and which really belonged to the output of that year.

Shea Nuts.

75. The output of shea nuts varies considerably, as the transport conditions make it difficult to obtain this product upcountry, and the collection is very uncertain, but it is noticed that there is an increase in the more valuable product of shea butter, which may account to some extent for the falling off.

Gums.

76. The falling off in this product is very considerable, and its cause is unknown. The bulk of this product comes from Northern Nigeria.

Coffee.

77. This article can no longer be regarded as a thriving industry, and the growing and collection of coffee has been almost entirely discontinued. Its cultivation is found to be unprofitable, and the native finds that he can cultivate cocoa with less trouble and better results.

Ivory.

78. The decrease in this article continues.

Increases.

79. The following table shows the principal articles in which increases have taken place; the quantity and value are shown for three years:—

—	1903.		1904.		1905.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Rubber ... ... lbs.	1,177,803	61,816	2,408,926	158,991	2,842,831	226,387
Ground Nuts ... cwt.	9,363	2,732	15,414	4,999	15,800	6,956
Shea Butter ... tons	—	—	164	3,715	205	5,081
Cocoa ... ... —	288,614	3,653	367,728	4,982	388,479	6,019

Rubber.

80. This valuable product continues to show a considerable increase, and with systematic cultivation and collection it will become a valuable addition to the exports of the country.

Cocoa.

81. This article shows a small increase in the quantity, but a comparatively large increase in the value. The inferior quality of the cocoa has been noticed, but the returns intimate that some improvement has taken place. More care has been given to the preparation of this article for sale and to the method of cultivation.

Fibre.

82. Among minor productions, this article continues to show an increased exportation, the figures for three years being as follows:—

1903.	1904.	1905.
£	£	£
3,226	3,678	4,052

83. The attached diagrams I. and II. show the annual value of imports and exports from 1891, the year in which the Government was organised, the United Kingdom and other countries being compared.

Another diagram—III.—is attached comparing the output of palm oil and palm kernels for the same period.

It is satisfactory to observe the rapid increase of trade, due to the more settled state of the country and the extension of the administration; this improvement will continue as the means of communication are extended.

SHIPPING.

84. The extent of the shipping for the year, compared with the year 1904, is shown in the following table:—

Return shewing the AMOUNT of SHIPPING for the Year 1905, in comparison with the year 1904.

—	1905.				1904.			
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Steam—								
British ...	381	485,606	376	480,729	349	444,131	352	444,904
Foreign ...	89	82,768	90	84,842	97	91,960	96	89,692
Sail—								
British ...	5	1,799	4	1,428	4	1,916	3	955
Foreign ...	—	—	—	—	1	60	1	60

85. There is an increase in the number of ships and the tonnage compared with the previous year, British shipping increasing, but foreign shipping showing a slight decrease. The differences are shown below:—

Flag.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Steam—				
British	32	41,472	24	35,825
Foreign	8	9,192	5	4,850
Sail—				
British	1	147	1	473
Foreign	1	60	1	60

86. The attached diagram—IV.—shows the value of the goods carried in British and foreign ships year by year. It is observed that almost the whole of the carrying trade is done by British shipping, although in late years the numbers, size, and accommodation of German ships have rapidly increased.

87. In Appendix C. will be found a statement of the number, tonnage, &c., of both steam and sailing ships for the last four years.

FORESTRY AND AGRICULTURE.

88. The examination of the forests of the Protectorate was continued by officers of the Forestry Department. In the Ifon district, on the banks of the Ogbesi River, in the moister areas, two species of mahogany, *Khaya Grandiflora* and *Entandrophragma Condelli*, as well as the two valuable rubber vines, *Landolphia Owariensis* and *Clitandra Elastica*, were found.

89. In the Central Division the majority of the wooded areas on the right bank of the Niger were inspected; the bulk of the forests belong to the "deciduous" and "evergreen forests" types. The most important trees found in the former are the Adja (*Afzelia Africana*), Arache (*Erothro[illegible]deum Guineense*), Ozia (*Danielia Thurifera*, the Balsam Copaiba tree), and the Awegbi, dwarf iron wood (*Lophira Alata*).

The evergreen forests, amongst other species, contain the Iroko (*Chlorophoro Excelsa*), also found on borders of the deciduous forests. Ebbolo (*Berlinia Acuminata*), species of *Diopyros*, *Mimusops Lacera* (yields a very good timber), *Brachystegia Speciformis* mahoganies, *Khaya Grandiflora* and *Entandrophragma Condelli*, and cedars of the genera *Gaurea* and *Pseudocedrela*.

The most important rubber-yielding plants in this division are *Landolphia Owariensis*, *Clitandra Elastica*, *Conopharyngia Stipulacea*, and the inferior vines *Carpodinus Fulva* and *Carpodinus Hirsuta*.

90. In the eastern division the Brass and Degema districts, only, possess heavy forests. They contain a good deal of mahogany, and are under water for the greater portion of the year. The Egwanga and Aba districts are the richest in palm oil, whilst rubber-yielding vines and the oil bean tree (*Pentaclethra Macrophylla*) and wild mango, or Dika nut (*Irvingia Barteri*), are common all over the division; they are not, however, exploited to any extent. A large trade in canoes, made chiefly from mahogany, is done in Degema and Brass.

91. Large tracts of country have been explored in the Cross River and Calabar divisions. Heavy forests, containing mahogany and ebony, are found in districts of Okuni and Obubra and in the northern portion of the Calabar division.

Rubber vines and the inferior *Funtumia Africana* are prevalent in most of the well-wooded areas.

In the Eket district the manufacture of Piassava, from the palm *Raphia Vinifera*, is a regular industry.

The oil palm is most abundant in the Ikot Ekpene and Aba districts.

92. There is one reserve in the Protectorate, situated on the Alabetta River, which is exploited to feed the Government sawmills at Onitsha, on the River Niger. Other areas have during the past year been selected for reservation. In the Benin district the native chiefs and councils have agreed to reserve the forests for 1,000 yards along both banks of every river and for 100 yards on each side of every main road. This is a very decided step in the right direction, as the indiscriminate destruction of the forests for farming, if allowed to continue unchecked, would result in irreparable loss.

93. During the year 119,800 *Funtumia Elastica* seedlings were transplanted from nurseries in the western division and planted out in the various sub-districts, as compared with 227,155 seedlings in 1904. The difference is due to defective seed. Plantations were also made in the central division. There are now nearly three quarters of a million young plants raised from nurseries living in the western division.

94. Timber lease holders have planted out 30,240 young mahoganies, to replace the mature trees felled by them, whilst in addition a large number of seedlings growing near the parent trees have been cleared from dominant growth.

95. The firm of Messrs. Alexander Miller Brother were induced by His Excellency the Governor to start a plantation of Para rubber trees at Sapelli. 10,000 seeds of this species were imported from the East, and of this number 6,800 germinated successfully. It is to be hoped that the other large firms on the coast will follow this lead and go in for Para cultivation on an extensive scale.

Cocoa nut cultivation was also started, but it is as yet too early to say with what results.

Cocoa is grown to a certain extent in the Calabar division and also in the eastern division, and the people are receiving the necessary instruction in the method of cultivation.

Efforts are also being made to increase the cultivation of maize in suitable parts of the Protectorate.

96. During the year, 34 leased timber areas were fully exploited, whilst 25 areas were only partially worked. The yield has been 2,571 trees, from which 651,670 cubic feet of timber, chiefly mahogany, valued locally at £38,696, were exported to Europe, as compared with 3,176 trees and 8,767 logs, valued at £59,134, in 1904. The decrease for the year

is explained by cessation of work on several areas during the period when prices in the home market were low.

97. Sample logs of 63 different species of trees were, with the help of Messrs. Elder, Dempster & Co. and Messrs Alexander Miller Brother, procured and forwarded to Liverpool and to the Imperial Institute, London. Messrs. Dobell & Co., of the former city, reported on 23 of the samples, and pointed out that it would probably pay to export to Europe five or six kinds of these timbers. This report was published *in extenso* in the Southern Nigeria Gazette No. 7 of 2nd March, 1906.

98. The introduction of light traction engines and other motors to replace haulage of logs by human labour would probably result in great economy and enable several other kinds of African timbers to be placed successfully on the home markets. The employment of a few skilled American and Canadian lumbermen accustomed to the handling of large timber would also be a great advantage.

99. With regard to minor forest produce, the total output of rubber for 1905 amounted to 2,824,366 lbs., valued at £226,388, as compared with 2,474,865 lbs., valued at £159,301, of the previous year. This of course includes rubber exported from Northern Nigeria.

The eminent French botanist, Monsieur A. Chevalier, discovered during the year a new and valuable rubber-yielding vine in Southern Nigeria and named it *Clitandra Elastica*. This species is abundant in parts of the Protectorate.

100. Piassava fibre to the value of £4,052 was exported during 1905, chiefly from the Eket district; there are other valuable fibre-yielding plants, such as *Honckenya Ficifolia* and *Urena Lobata*, to be found in the Protectorate, the cultivation of which will probably turn out a successful venture.

101. The oil bean tree, *Pentaclethera Macrophylla*, and the wild mango or Dika nut, *Irvingia Barteri*, are almost universally distributed in the moister parts of Southern Nigeria; they have been exploited to a small extent, but unless the prices realized in the home market are increased there is not much prospect of any large trade being established in these products. Shea butter trees are only found on the extreme northern boundary of the Protectorate.

102. Onitsha Plantations.—These plantations yielded 38,100 lbs. of coffee, of which 20,180 lbs. were cleaned and ready for shipment at the end of the year. The cultivation of cocoa at Onitsha has not been a success, owing to the unsuitability of the soil. The planting of *Hevea Braziliensis*, *Ficus Elastica*, and *Funtumia Elastica* was commenced, but the latter proved a failure, probably owing to unsuitability of climate; the other two species are doing well. Experiments with cotton

proved a complete failure; in the month of October, for some reason or another, the young plants withered up and died.

It was found that the variety of castor oil grown in the Oka district is the most suitable for cultivation at Onitsha, both as regards yield per acre and size and quality of seed.

Virginia tobacco was grown with great success, and sold locally to the natives. Several kinds of English vegetables and flowers have been grown successfully. The distribution of plants from the nurseries was as follows:—Coffee, 1,400; cocoa, 400; and fruit trees, 40.

103. The Botanical Gardens, Calabar, have been sadly neglected in the past for the want of a properly qualified curator. Mr. Don, however, from the Gold Coast, was appointed curator towards the end of the year, and it is to be hoped that great developments will now follow and make them really useful for the cultivation and distribution of important economic plants.

More than half the area of the gardens is under coffee, the cultivation of which will now be discontinued in favour of cocoa, Para rubber, and other products. It has been proved that *C. Liberica* can be grown with success, and as an object lesson the coffee plantation has served its purpose.

The variety of cocoa known as "Forasters" has been established. Immense tracts of country in the eastern and Calabar divisions, as well as in other parts of the Protectorate, are suitable for this plant, and it should be largely grown by the natives as one of the most paying crops open to them.

Para rubber seeds were imported from the Cameroons and the Straits; those from the former place failed to germinate, but out of 140 seeds from the latter, 120 young plants were obtained, which are all doing well. The plants put out in 1900 have shown excellent growth, and some have flowered for the first time. *Ficus Elastica* does well here.

Cinnamon and kola are both established and doing well; the cultivation of the latter should be extended, as it is much in demand amongst the natives of the Cross River and Northern Nigeria.

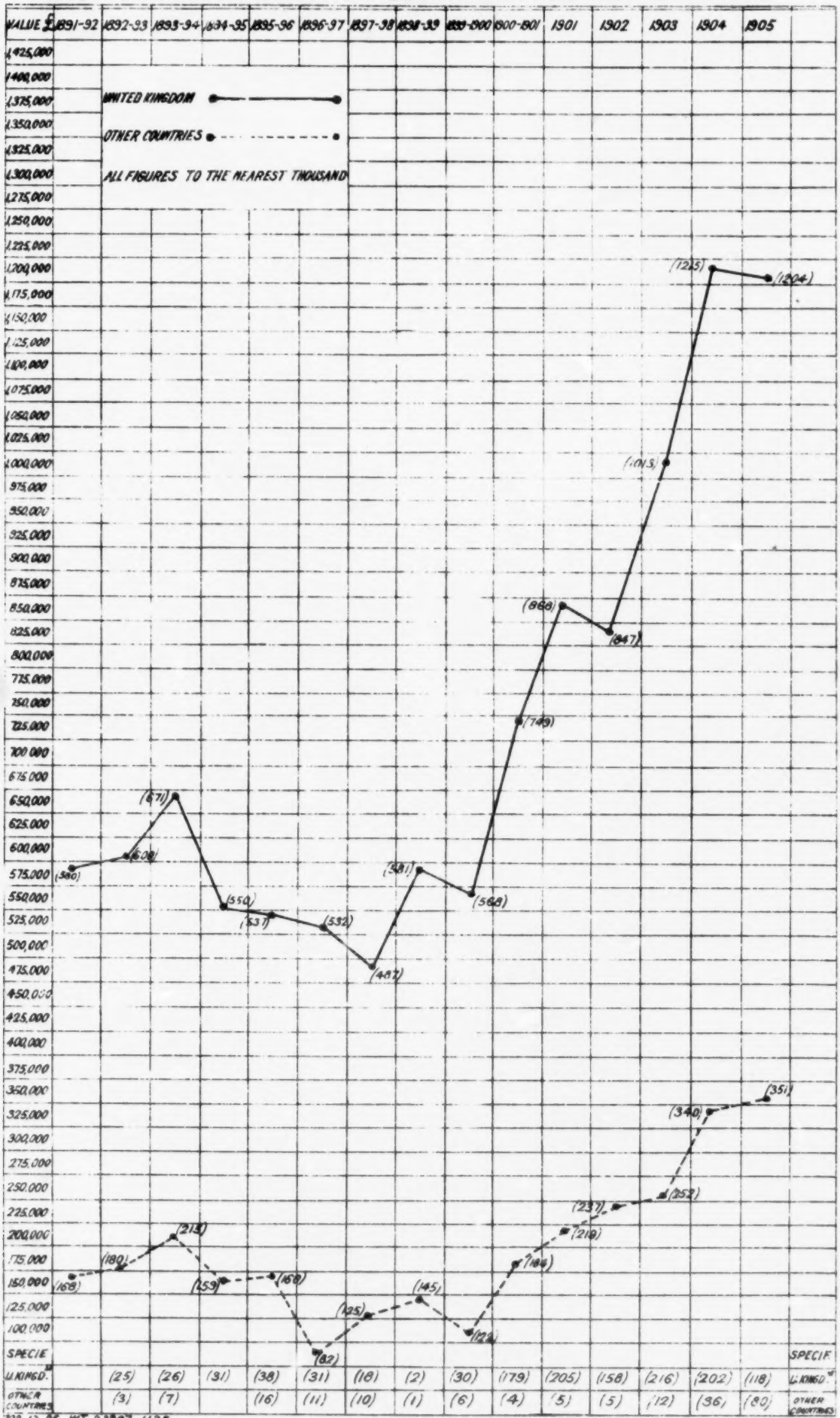
The number of plants distributed during the year was 1,572, consisting of cocoa, coffee, and rubber.

Forest Legislation.

104. New rules relating to timber and rubber were introduced in August last, and an amended proclamation providing for the legal constitution of reserved forests was brought into force at the same time.

DIAGRAM I.

CHART SHEWING THE VALUE OF IMPORTS (EXCLUDING SPECIE) FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM AND OTHER COUNTRIES FROM 1891–2 TO 1905



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Weller & Graham, Ltd Litho. London.

DIAGRAM II.

CHART SHEWING THE VALUE OF EXPORTS (EXCLUDING SPECIE) TO THE UNITED KINGDOM AND OTHER COUNTRIES FROM 1891-2 TO 1905.

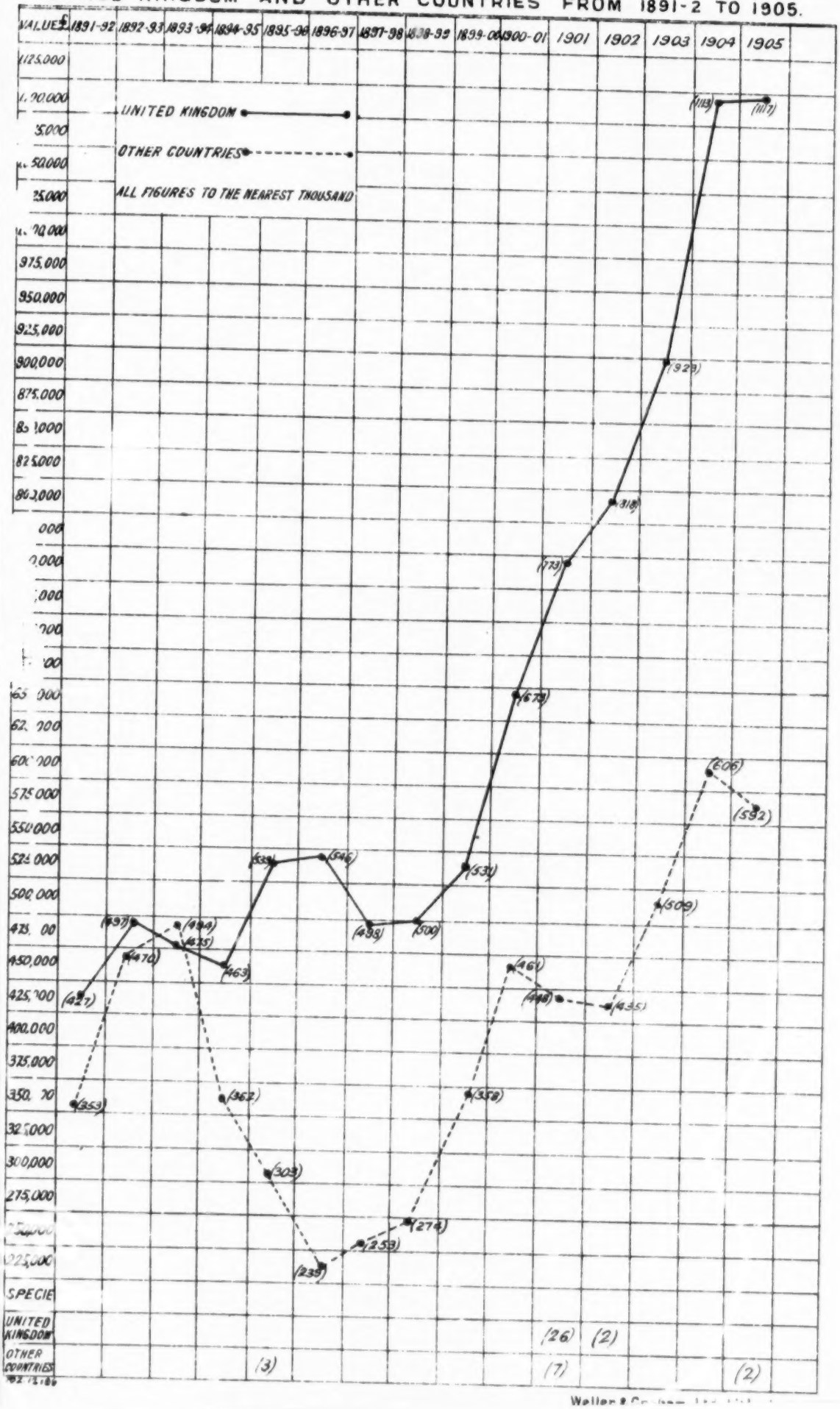
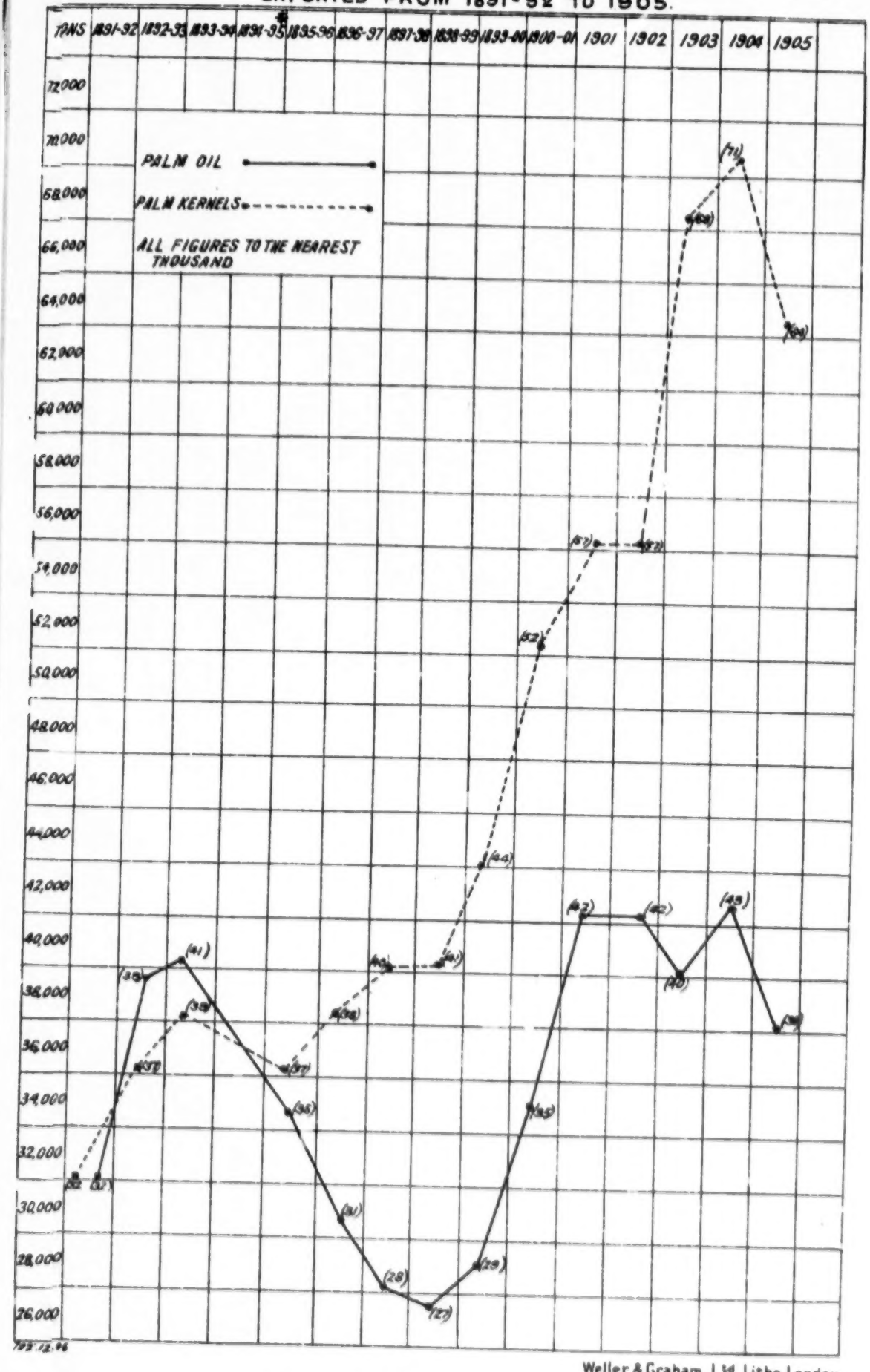


DIAGRAM III.

CHART SHEWING THE QUANTITY OF PALM OIL AND PALM KERNELS EXPORTED FROM 1891-92 TO 1905.



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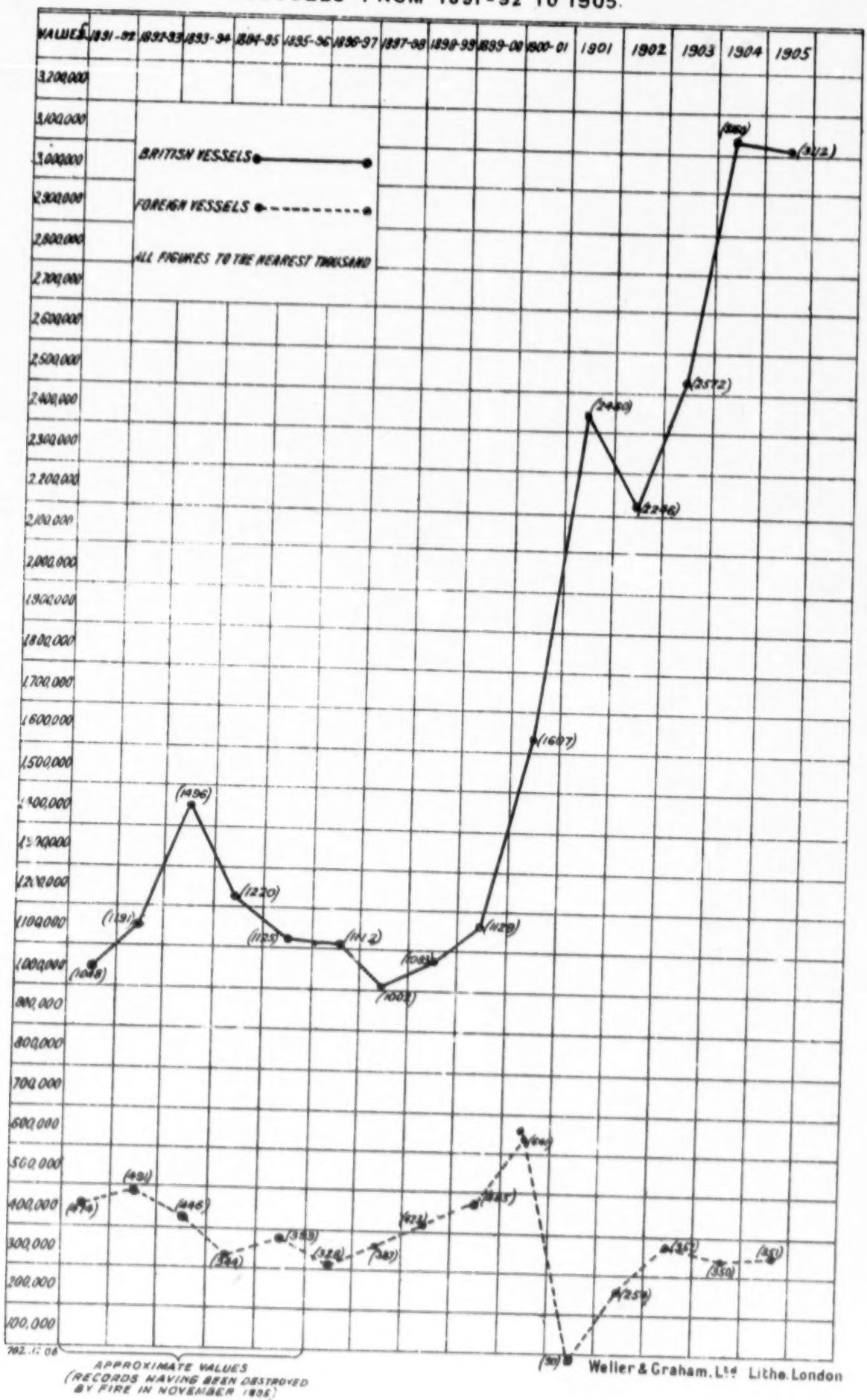
*Records destroyed by fire.

DIAGRAM IV.

CHART SHEWING THE VALUE OF TRADE CARRIED ON IN BRITISH AND FOREIGN VESSELS FROM 1891-92 TO 1905.



APPROXIMATE VALUES (RECORDS HAVING BEEN DESTROYED BY FIRE IN NOVEMBER 1895)

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Financial Results.

105. The revenue received by the Department was:—

(*a.*) For major forest produce (timber)—£6,302 17*s.* 4*d.*
(*b.*) For minor forest produce (rubber)—£653 10*s.*

—giving a total of £6,956 7*s.* 4*d.* against an expenditure during the same period of £8,444.

LEGISLATION.

106. The principal enactments of the year were as follows:—

Proclamation No. 1 of 1905 provided for the prevention of the spread of infectious diseases, and important additions were made to the Public Health Laws in Proclamation No. 5 and Rule No. 3 of 1905, under which the slaughter of animals intended for human consumption is controlled.

107. The Customs Tariff was amended by Proclamations Nos. 3 and 13 of 1905, whereby the duties were increased on spirits from 3*s.* to 4*s.* 0½*d.* per proof gallon (the strength being ascertained by Tralles' hydrometer) on unsweetened spirits from 2*s.* to 4*s.* per gallon, and on guns from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* each. The list of articles exempted from duties of Customs is considerably extended and amplified (*vide* head "Financial," paragraph 9). Provision as made for articles upon which duty had been paid in Southern Nigeria being admitted on transire into the Colony of Lagos without the payment of further duties in substitution for the drawback system which had previously existed.

108. Important modifications of the Education Law, which were necessitated by the alteration and development of the educational system of the Protectorate, were affected by Proclamation No. 4 of 1905. These are explained under head "Education" (*vide* Section 116), as are also the alterations in the Education Rules and Code, which are contained in Rule No. 10 of 1905.

109. Proclamation No. 7 of 1905 reserves to the High Commissioner the privilege of constructing telegraphs within the Protectorate. Permission may, however, be granted by licence for the construction of telegraphs for the purpose of private or business offices and telegraphs for transmission of telegrams to and from places beyond the Protectorate; the African Direct Telegraph Company is permitted without licence to maintain and work its lines which had been constructed previous to 1st April, 1906. Provision is also made for the protection of Government lines, and the Superintendent of Telegraphs is vested with powers necessary for the construction and maintenance of lines.

110. By Proclamation No. 8 of 1905 important amendments were made in the law of criminal procedure, as affecting capital sentences, with the object of lessening the long delay which has often occurred between the passing and the carrying out of a sentence.

111. The Authentication and Interpretation Proclamations (Nos. 4 of 1900 and 10 of 1903) and the Interpretation Proclamation (No. 2 of 1904) were consolidated and amended by the General Clauses Proclamation No. 11 of 1905.

112. The Forestry Laws were amended, and further provision made for the preservation of forests by Proclamation No. 12, Order No. 3, and Rules Nos. 6 and 7 of 1905. The powers of the High Commissioner to create forest reserves were extended, and provision made for the acquisition of land for such purposes by agreement with the native owners. The regulations affecting the granting of licences to cut timber were amended by Rule No. 6 of 1905, with the object of protecting the forests and meeting the views expressed by those interested in the export timber trade. The same rule included a provision for the felling of timber for export and for local sale by the owners of the land.

113. The regulations controlling the collection of rubber were amended by Rule No. 7 of 1905, and the protection of the latex-yielding trees and vines safeguarded. Laws were also enacted for the protection of illiterate persons, the regulations of the larger towns, and the suppression of certain societies.

114. Under Proclamation No. 8 of 1901 regulations were made in Order No. 7 for the preservation of wild animals, birds, and fish, and in Rule No. 5 for the issue of licences to kill elephants. By Rule No. 5 the fees for licences to kill elephants are fixed at £10 for six months and £20 for one year, and for collectors at £6 and £10 for the same periods. A royalty of 25 per cent. of the ivory or its value is reserved to Government, and 25 per cent. of the meat of the animal to the native owners of the land where the elephant is killed.

115. The appointment of the High Commissioner as Governor of the Colony of Lagos necessitated a delegation of his powers during his absence in that Colony, and by the Southern Nigeria Order in Council, 1904, the High Commissioner was empowered during his absence in adjacent territories to appoint a deputy to exercise such of the powers previously vested in the High Commissioner, with the exception of the powers of pardon and suspension, as the High Commissioner may think fit to assign to him.

EDUCATION.

116. By Proclamation No. 4 of 1905 important amendments were made in the Education Laws, and many of the powers, including the control of public monies allocated for educational purposes, which had previously been delegated to the Education Board, were vested in the High Commissioner. The administration of Government schools was thereby brought more directly under departmental control.

117. Under the law of 1903 Government schools, which in previous reports have been referred to as non-mission schools, had been established. Their administrative and financial control was under a local board of management, composed of officials and non-officials, and they were supported by Government grants, school fees, and contributions from native chiefs. Under the new scheme a local committee of management retains administrative control, but the expenditure is met from public funds, and the school receipts are credited to revenue.

118. In practice, the Education Code of 1903 had in several details been found cumbrous and ill-adapted to local conditions. With the object of giving effect to the representations made to the Education Board, an amended Code (Rule No. 10 of 1905) was published towards the end of the year.

119. Modifications were made in the method of calculating attendances and grants in assisted schools, the scale of grants for primary schools was slightly increased, and the examination schedules were simplified to suit local conditions.

120. The difficulty of obtaining competent teachers continues to seriously hamper educational work. The teaching staff in Government schools was strengthened in 1903 by the addition of two West Indian teachers. The demand, however, increases with the establishment of new schools, and as it seems probable that the best results can be obtained by the employment of trained West Africans as teachers, it is hoped that classes may be established under European supervision at Bonny and Benin City.

121. Arrangements have also been made for regular examination at convenient centres of candidates for pupil teachers' certificates. In any attempt at vernacular education the difficulty is met with in an aggravated form. All the native teachers have been educated through the medium of the English language, and have been trained to teach in English; the demand for education is satisfied with a knowledge of the English language sufficient either to make intercourse with Government Departments possible or to enable the pupil to engage in trade with Europeans.

122. The establishment of Government schools directly under departmental control permits of a distinction between these

schools and assisted schools receiving grants under the education rules. The distinction is now maintained by the Department, and it will be convenient to adhere to it in this report.

Government Schools.

123. Government schools had been established at the beginning of 1905 at the following places:—

Eastern Division—Bonny.

Western Division—Sapele, Benin City, Warri, Irrua, Owo, and Agbede.

Central Division—Aboh and Aseh.

Cross River Division—Aro Chuku.

The schools at Bonny and Sapele are residential, and at Sapele, Benin City, and Warri there are departments devoted to the education of girls.

124. Schools were established during the year at Akassa and Opobo, in the Eastern Division, Uwet and Oban, in the Calabar Division, and Ifon, in the Western Division.

125. Arrangements are in progress for the establishment of schools at Onitsha, in the Central Division; Sabongidda and Uromi, in the Western Division; Ikang, in the Calabar Division; and Owerri, in the Eastern Division. The opening of the Owerri School was only delayed owing to the difficulty of finding competent teachers.

126. In Government schools 639 pupils were presented for examination at the annual inspections; of these, 506 were boys and 63 girls in the first and higher standards, and 70 were pupils in sub-standards or infant classes where sex was not distinguished. The average daily attendance for the year was 541·2.

127. The expenditure on Government schools amounted to £2,506 7*s.* 2*d.*, of which £63 1*s.* 2*d.* was received in respect of fees, £695 15*s.* was voluntarily contributed by chiefs, and the sum of £1,747 11*s.* was paid by Government. The amount paid by Government in 1905 exceeded the amount paid in the previous year by £745 11*s.*

128. The extensive school buildings at Bonny, which have been erected at a cost of over £10,000, were occupied in January, 1906, and the school is now conducted under the supervision of a European principal. Benin City School, which continues to maintain its position as the largest and most advanced day school, also enjoys the advantage of European supervision, and one of the results has been the establishment of a class having for its object the training of boys for Government employment.

129. A considerable advance has been made in technical education, and pupils at Bonny and Benin City are now instructed in carpentry, coopering, and other crafts, with successful results.

Assisted Schools.

130. The buildings at the Hope Waddell Institute, Calabar, which have been constructed by Government were completed and occupied during the year. The scheme for the establishment of this high school has already been fully explained in previous reports.

131. There is a department for technical instruction at the Hope Waddell Institute, Calabar, which received a grant of £250 and at which pupils receive instruction in carpentry, printing, and in tailoring.

132. The Onitsha Industrial Mission, which was originally founded by the Church Missionary Society, received a grant of £200.

The carpentry work of this institution has received very high commendation.

133. Grants to assisted schools, including grants for technical instruction, amounted for the year to £2,490 15*s.* 7*d.*, being £1,048 1*s.* 7*d.* in excess of the grants of the previous year.

134. The average attendances and amounts of grants earned in assisted schools are shown in the accompanying table:—

Schools under the Management of	No. of Schools.	Average Attendance.	No. presented for Examination.	Classification of Grants.				Total.
				Annual Examination.	Technical Instruction.	Building and Maintenance.	Fees for Government Pupils.	
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Church of England.	8	224·9	376	354 18 6	200 0 0	—	—	554 18 6
United Free Church of Scotland.	7	336·3	504	627 18 6	250 0 0	409 5 3	130 5 4	1,417 9 1
Roman Catholic Church.	5	355	486	284 13 0	—	232 0 0	1 15 0	518 8 0
Total	20	916·2	1,366	1 267 10 0	450 0 0	641 5 3	132 0 4	2,490 15 7

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

CALABAR.

European Hospital.

135. During 1905, 174 cases were treated in the European hospital, of which two proved fatal. Of the fatal cases, one was attributable to blackwater fever and the other to malignant malaria.

The admissions to the hospital for the 5 years 1901-5 were as follows:—

Year.	Admissions.	Died.	Invalided.
1901	118	2	13
1902	126	5	20
1903	128	2	13
1904	113	3	4
1905	170	2	4

St. Margaret's Native Hospital.

There were 809 cases treated, with 39 deaths, being 261 cases and 23 deaths less than in the previous year. In addition, 7,682 out-patients also received treatment.

136. The following table shows the major operations performed at St. Margaret's Hospital, with the result in each case:—

—	No.	Result.	
		Successful.	Died.
Amputation of Limbs	4	4	—
Excision of Breast	1	1	—
Excision of Tumours	3	3	—
Craniotomy	1	—	1
Elephantiasis...	4	4	—
Radical Cure of Hernia	6	5	1
Hernia (Strangulated)	1	—	1
Hip Joint	1	1	—
Plastic	1	1	—
	22	19	3

Two European sisters from the Roman Catholic Mission are attached to the hospital and assist in attending to female patients.

Contagious Diseases Hospital.

137. A new contagious diseases hospital has been built, and will be ready for the reception of patients early in 1906.

Asylums.

138. The lunatic asylum was completed during the year. The inmates are accommodated in mud and wattle houses, and there are three isolation wards built of concrete blocks. Pending legislation on the subject, the asylum is only used for criminal lunatics.

Prisons.

139. The number of prisons in the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria has increased to 23, and there was an increase in 1905 of 1,014 in the number of prisoners admitted—the figures for 1903, 1904, and 1905 being 7,992, 9,084, and 10,188, respectively.

140. There has been a satisfactory decrease in the number of political prisoners. Three were admitted during the year making a total of 19, and at the close of the year only five remained in custody.

141. Much has been done to improve the prison buildings, and new prisons are in course of construction at Onitsha and Aboh. At the former station substantial brick buildings are being erected within an enclosure surrounded by a brick wall.

142. During the period from April to August there was a serious epidemic of dysentery in the Calabar prison, though the water and food were of excellent quality. There were 274 deaths during the year as compared with 174 in 1904, but the daily average number of prisoners was then considerably less. There were 66 escapes and 46 captures.

143. The number of punishments has decreased from 517 in 1904 to 388 for the current year, and in many cases there were repetitions of offences by the same prisoners. Of the total number of punishments, 182 were corporal.

144. Estimating the value of labour in the six principal prisons at 9*d*. per day for hard labour and 6*d*. per day for light labour and in the remaining prisons at a uniform rate of 6*d*. per day, the value of the work done would aggregate £15,222. The value of labour for 1904, estimated at 6*d*. a day for first class labour, and 3*d*. a day for second class labour, amounted to £19,852. The expenditure for the year amounted to £17,735, as compared with £15,954 for the previous year.

145. Though improvement is noticeable in the efficiency of the native staff, there is still great difficulty in obtaining

recruits competent to discharge the duties demanded of them. There was a satisfactory decrease in offences committed by prison officials. With an increased staff, the number of offences fell from 99 in 1904 to 55 in 1905.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

146. The total number of offences dealt with by the courts, not including the native courts, during 1905 was 2,269, of which 1,985 were dealt with by the magistrates.

147. In 1905 there was a decrease of 23 offences against the person, an increase of 69 in offences against property, and an increase of 54 in other offences.

There were 234 prosecutions for larceny and burglary in Calabar, as contrasted with 252 in 1904.

148. In the native courts, 91 of which have been in operation during 1905, the number of criminal cases was 7,375, and 18,261 civil, showing a very large increase in the total number of cases dealt with, which is due to the greater number of courts in operation and their more efficient working.

VITAL STATISTICS.

149. The estimated European population was 533, of whom 199 were officials and 334 merchants or missionaries. The number of Europeans resident in the Protectorate during the year exceeded the number in 1904 by 33, there being 42 more officials and nine fewer non-officials.

150. There were 12 deaths during the year, equivalent to a rate of 22·5 per 1,000 of population; of these 10 were attributable to disease and two to accident. Compared with 1904 the rate shows a decrease of 15·5 per mille. It should, however, be observed that the figures for 1904 include the deaths of two officials in England. In 1905, six deaths occurred in England (three officials and three non-officials), giving a total of 18, equivalent to a rate of 33·7 per 1,000 of population. The rate so calculated only shows a decrease of 4·3 per mille as compared with the previous year.

151. During the year, 88 of the resident European population were invalided, equivalent to a rate of 165·1 per 1,000. In this number, 43 officials are included, of whom six were subsequently permanently invalided, and one died shortly after arrival in England.

152. The following table shows the average death and invaliding rates for the 5 years 1901-5:—

Comparative European Vital Statistics from 1901 *to* 1905.

Year.	Number.	Died.	Invalided.	Death-rate per mille.	Invaliding per mille.
Officials :—					
1901	121	4	15	33	123·9
1902	125	3	31	24	248
1903	159	2	27	12·57	169·84
1904	157	7	18	44·58	114·64
1905	199	5	43	25·1	216
Non-Officials :—					
1901	276	13	32	47·1	115·9
1902	279	8	17	28·67	60·93
1903	301	10	27	33·22	89·70
1904	343	12	24	34·98	69·97
1905	334	7	45	20·9	134·7
Officials and Non-Officials combined :—					
1901	397	17	47	42·82	118·42
1902	404	11	48	27·22	118·81
1903	460	12	54	26·08	117·39
1904	500	19	42	38	84
1905	533	12	88	22·5	165·1

NOTE.—Three Officials and three Non-Officials died in England in 1905 not included in above figures.

Europeans suffered principally from malaria and disorders of the digestive system. There were two cases of filarial infection. The filaria are, approximately, 1/90 of an inch in length, and are present in large numbers in the circulation. Filaria are common amongst natives, and the infection is carried by the mosquito.

153. There was no serious epidemic amongst the native population during the year. 29,070 cases of disease were treated, of which 308 terminated fatally. 24,079 vaccinations are reported to have been successfully performed.

154. Good progress was made in connection with the scheme for the improvement of Duke Town. The construction of roads and an adequate scheme for surface drainage were proceeded with, and considerable improvements were made in the sanitary condition of the town.

REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

155. It has not yet been possible to arrive at any reliable estimate of the population of the Protectorate, and the numbers of births and deaths cannot be accurately ascertained. The number of births registered was 98, of which 56 were males

and 45 females. 141 deaths were registered, of which 20 were Europeans, 40 aliens, and 81 natives. The number of deaths of Europeans includes those occurring on merchant ships in port.

156. Seventy-six Christian marriages were registered, being a decrease of 10 as compared with the previous year.

157. Forty-nine deeds affecting land were registered, including 29 leases, 6 agreements, 3 timber concessions, and 11 powers of attorney. The fees collected were £49 7*s.* 6*d.* Nine trade marks were registered and four additional applications were made for registration; two patents were also registered.

158. The fees collected for trade marks and patents registration amounted to £23 17*s.* and £8, respectively.

CLIMATE.

Temperature.

159. The mean temperature of Calabar was 81·21°, and the mean daily range 15·40°. The highest and lowest shade temperatures were recorded at Bonny in February, being 96·21° and 62·13°, respectively.

Rainfall.

160. The rainfall at stations on the coast is much heavier than at inland stations. The maximum rainfall in 1905 was 167·75 inches at Bonny, and the minimum, 59·42 inches, at Asaba. The rainfall at Calabar was 167·39 inches for the year, and 37·07 inches for the month of August. At Bonny, in July, there were 37·16 inches.

The following table shows the rainfall during the year at stations where records were taken:—

Rainfall (Amount in Inches).

Month.	Calabar.	Afikpo.	Bende.	Bonny.	Sapele.	Owerri.	Benin City.	Asaba.	Onitsha Plantations.
January ...	·42	—	1·20	2·27	1·12	—	—	—	1·71
February ...	·36	·91	1·36	2·81	1·06	—	·60	4·50	·26
March	7·88	3·01	1·07	5·04	6·14	—	—	6·74	5·32
April	7·81	6·51	4·50	2·87	6·12	3·59	—	5·32	4·37
May	12·17	7·47	4·60	14·60	12·53	6·20	—	6·25	5·36
June	24·79	9·12	13·10	26·66	19·24	11·07	37·85	8·37	9·08
July	27·18	10·61	15·40	37·16	25·54	26·43	33·14	7·72	10·19
August... ...	37·07	16·06	8·63	22·26	8·04	14·01	11·85	5·53	6·37
September ...	19·85	13·38	13·04	16·25	16·03	13·93	27·27	7·28	10·02
October ...	18·94	11·86	9·77	23·33	11·32	12·62	17·70	7·22	7·60
November ...	8·98	4·95	2·00	10·41	8·19	4·15	10·34	·49	1·59
December ...	1·94	—	—	4·09	·92	—	—	—	—
Total ...	167·39	83·83	74·67	167·75	116·25	92·00	138·75	59·42	60·07

Direction of Wind.

161. At Calabar the general direction of the wind was from the West, except in December, when it was from the North-West.

POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

162. There has been a remarkable expansion in every branch of the Post Office during the last five years. The number of letters carried has risen from 494,325 to 918,753; the number of parcels from 9,314 to 19,116; and the value of the money order transactions has increased from £23,213 to £50,564.

Letters.

163. The number of letters, postcards, books, and sample packets which passed through the Post Office during 1905 aggregated 918,753, being an increase of 106,352 over the previous year. The figures for the years 1901-5 are as follows:—

Year.	Number.
1901	494,325
1902	553,909
1903	742,034
1904	812,431
1905	918,753

Parcels.

164. The number of parcels increased by 3,732 as compared with 1904, and by 9,802 as compared with 1901. The following table shows the number of parcels dealt with during the years 1901-5:—

Year.	Number.
1901	9,314
1902	11,118
1903	13,718
1904	15,384
1905	19,116

The amount of duty collected on parcels in 1905 was £761, and was greater by £163 than that collected in the previous

year, this increase alone being equivalent to the total amount collected in 1901. The following are the amounts of duty collected on parcels in the years 1901-5:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1901	165
1902	366
1903	474
1904	596
1905	761

Parcels are now allowed to be imported and forwarded to Northern Nigeria without any Customs duty being paid. It is estimated that the number of parcels so transmitted to Northern Nigeria in 1905 was 7,636, and that the duty payable in Southern Nigeria (which is presumably collected in Northern Nigeria and credited to Northern Nigeria revenue) amounted in 1905 to something over £500.

Money Orders.

165. There were large increases in money order transactions, both in respect of orders issued and orders received. The total increase over the previous year was £11,032, of which £8,378 was in respect of orders issued, and £2,654 in respect of orders received. The amount remitted to the United Kingdom was £19,130, being greater than that for 1904 by £3,959, and the amount received from the United Kingdom was £2,967, being an increase of £1,170. The exchange with West African Colonies is stationary in respect of receipts, but the amount remitted showed an increase of £2,925 over 1904, and aggregated £17,264. The value of the money order transactions has more than doubled since 1901, and the following table shows the increase that has taken place from year to year:—

Year.	Issues.	Receipts.
	£	£
1901	21,089	2,124
1902	22,948	3,226
1903	29,069	3,159
1904	32,895	5,637
1905	41,273	8,291

Revenue and Expenditure.

166. There was a deficit of £1,639 on the year's working of the Postal and Telegraph Department, but in the statement of Revenue and Expenditure are included the personal emoluments

of the staff of the recently established Telegraph Branch of the Department. Similarly, the amount of £6,309 5*s.* 5*d.*, realised by the sale of "stamps and postcards, &c.," includes the sum of £1,819 4*s.* 8*d.* on account of telegrams and stamps issued for revenue purposes.

The following tables show the revenue and expenditure of the Department for the years 1901-5:—

Revenue (Comparative Table).

—	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Sale of Stamps, Postcards, &c.	3,309 2 11	4,527 17 4	4,214 6 8½	3,801 6 6	6,309 5 5
Commission on Money Orders	264 13 1	294 9 1	370 16 0	430 10 8	510 16 3
Unclaimed Money Orders ..	3 11 6	7 14 10	18 13 4	7 10 9	47 8 5
Rent on Private Letter-boxes	—	—	—	54 0 0	33 10 0
Taxed Articles	—	15 13 2	—	—	—
Telegrams	—	—	—	156 15 0	—
Express delivery and portage of Telegrams	—	0 12 0	1 13 3	9 19 6	—
Telegraphic Address	—	—	—	2 8 0	—
Total	3,577 7 6	4,846 6 5	4,605 9 3½	4,462 10 5	6,901 0 1

Expenditure.

—	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Personal Emoluments	2,204 3 7	2,218 6 3	2,577 9 5	4,286 14 9	6,075 5 11
Manufacture of Postage Stamps.	355 11 1	117 5 8	117 2 7	275 8 9	97 18 4
Postal Stores	37 16 3	358 5 2	229 14 9	367 5 6	378 5 3
Conveyance of Mails (Inland)..	498 19 10	507 14 10	981 11 3	998 2 5	844 12 1
" " (Foreign)	711 14 7	801 11 11	813 11 5	1,103 7 2	799 11 3
Postage, all Departments ..	135 2 2	132 1 2	143 5 5	102 1 2	74 18 10
Maintenance of Telegraphs ..	—	—	31 3 3	785 15 4	—
Uniforms and Clothing.. ..	20 2 4	12 19 7	22 13 9	3 16 9	59 3 0
Overtime Fees	—	—	—	86 2 9	206 14 6
Purchase and upkeep of Telephones.	—	—	—	—	15 15 0
Sundries	—	—	—	—	3 12 7
Total	3,963 9 10	4,148 4 7	4,901 11 10	8,024 9 7	3,540 2 3

TELEGRAPHS.

167. During the year the lines have been kept working with great difficulty.

168. In the Calabar-Bonny Section the line consists of 85¾ miles land-line and 31½ miles cable. The cables across the Calabar River, 17 miles, and Opobo River, 9 miles, have been damaged by snags drifting with the tidal current.

169. The land-line across Andoni, 19 miles, passes through dense forest, and interruptions have been caused by falling timber, also by elephants. The bush along this section has been cleared, and, as far as possible, all trees likely to fall on the line removed.

170. The Forcados-Omolume Section, 66 miles, including 9 miles of cable across the Benin, Escravos, and Forcados Rivers has also given considerable trouble, chiefly owing to the cable interruptions.

171. The experience gained of the difficulties to be contended with in the coast lines proves that the coast country is an extremely difficult one for telegraph lines, and before a satisfactory service can be maintained, it will be necessary to replace all the galvanised iron wire with a heavy copper wire, and the light cables with a heavier type of cable.

172. There has been an increase in the number of telegrams dealt with, and the importance and necessity for a good telegraph service have been very clearly proved.

Telegraph Construction.

173. A scheme for the establishment of telegraphic communication between the principal administrative and commercial centres was outlined in the report for 1904. As then explained, the construction of a line from Warri to meet an extension of the existing Lagos-Ibadan line was considered of primary importance.

174. On the arrival of the construction party in February, 1905, a careful survey was undertaken, on a scale of 2 inches to the mile, of the route which the line was to follow. The actual work of construction did not begin until the middle of April, although a considerable amount of clearing had been done before that date.

175. The line between Warri and the Lagos boundary, on the Agbese River, 16 miles west of Owo, was completed during the year. Its total length is 152 miles and, starting from Warri, it passes through Sapele (32 miles), Benin City (65 miles), Ifon (110 miles), and Owo (130 miles).

The line is an overhead one throughout, except for a break of 500 yards at Sapele where a cable crosses the Benin River. It runs in a passage 30 feet wide cut in a direct line through the forest from station to station.

Offices have been opened at Warri, Sapele, Benin City, Ifon, and Owo.

176. A survey of the line, which is eventually to connect Benin City with Calabar, was carried as far as Agbor, and 12 miles of this line had been erected at the close of the year.

177. The working parties were recruited almost entirely from the Yorubas, occupying the adjacent Lagos hinterland, and the Benis. The latter proved by far the best axemen, but the former were more intelligent.

178. The total expenditure on construction for the year amounted to, approximately, £26,000. In this sum, however, is included the cost of the materials for 456 miles of line which has not yet been erected, and of the instruments for 16 offices, which together amount to £7,500.

SURVEY.

179. When the Survey Department was originally founded in 1901 the only map of the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria was one published by the Intelligence Department of the War Office on a scale of 8 miles to the inch, which contained little detail apart from the coast line. There existed, however, a considerable number of compass sketches made by officers of the Protectorate, and a framework of fixed points was urgently required on which to compile the work.

180. The country near the coast is intersected by a network of navigable waterways, and steps were early taken to determine by astronomical observation certain positions on and from the coast. Latitudes were accordingly determined by circummeridian altitudes of N. and S. stars and longitudes by chronometric differences between the various points. Chronometric errors were determined by altitude of E. and W. stars, and to and fro journeys by water were taken when possible in order to determine the chronometric rates with the greatest precision possible under local conditions. Where such methods were impracticable, compass traverses with perambulators, checked by latitude observations, were resorted to.

181. In most parts of the Protectorate near the coast, triangulation is impossible owing to the physical features of the country, and theodolite traverses impracticable on account of the numerous swamps and creeks. A triangulation, on a scale of $\frac{1}{100000}$, was, however, made during the dry season, 1904-5, of the country in the vicinity of the Oban Hills. The survey extended over an area of 1,200 square miles, and conical piles of logs were erected as triangulation stations. The geographical position of the survey depends on that of a trigonometrical point on one of the hills which has been determined by latitude and azimuth from Calabar, the longitude of which place has been determined from Bonny by chronometric values.

182. The whole of the work that has been done depends on the geographical position of Bonny (Pullens Stone), the longitude of which was fixed from the Cape by a single observation, and it is therefore necessary that this point should be re-determined by telegraph, either from the Cape or from the Observatory at Lagos, which has been recently fixed from the Cape. The longitude of Calabar can then be determined, and a fresh azimuth obtained to the trigonometrical point on the Oban Hills.

183. With the extension of the telegraph system it will be possible to fix the more important stations telegraphically, and when necessary theodolite traverses can be run from them to give a framework of other points upon which the present compass traverses can be re-adjusted.

184. During the years 1901, 1902, and 1903 the officers of the Survey Department were, for much of the time which they spent in the Protectorate, engaged first in surveying routes for the telegraph lines between Calabar and Bonny, and between Forcados and Omulumu on the Lagos boundary, and afterwards in supervising the construction of these lines.

185. In 1902 a map of Southern Nigeria, on a scale of $\frac{1}{3\,000\,000}$, was published, and there have since been two further editions in 1903 and 1905. There have been incorporated numerous compass traverses executed by officers of the Southern Nigeria Regiment and the Political and Marine Departments, the traverses being adjusted between the astronomically fixed points.

PUBLIC WORKS.

186. The proposed re-organisation of the Department, mentioned in the Report for 1904, was carried out during 1905, and the results under the scheme of decentralisation have made for greater efficiency owing to increased supervision.

Formerly all the administrative work was done from headquarters at Calabar, but under the decentralisation scheme Divisional Engineers were stationed at Bonny, Onitsha, and Warri in the Eastern, Central, and Western Divisions. These officers, subject to the control of the Divisional Commissioner, and of the Director of Public Works as regards important works, administered the public works in their respective divisions.

To carry out this scheme the executive staff was increased by the addition of three assistant engineers.

At the end of the year the European staff consisted of the following:—

1 Director,
1 Deputy Director,
1 Senior Assistant,
7 Assistant Engineers,
11 Foremen,
1 Brickmaker,
2 Mechanical Engineers,
16 Foremen temporarily employed on specific works.

187. The principal works executed are given below, and show that considerable attention was given during the year to—

(*a.*) The establishment of schools.
(*b.*) Sanitation.
(*c.*) Providing hospitals.
(*d.*) Water supply.

CALABAR.

Principal Works.	Completed and in Progress.	Total Cost and Amount Spent during the year.	
			£
Contagious Diseases Hospital... ...	Completed.	Total Cost.	1,161
Buildings for High School (Hope Waddell Institute).	"	" "	12,238
Additional Quarters for Native Clerical Staff.	"	" "	462
Civil Police Officers and Stores ...	"	" "	440
Barracks for Police, 40 Rank and File	"	" "	991
Customs Store and King's Warehouse	"	" "	506
Water Supply to Quarters for Native Clerical Staff.	"	" "	249
Rest House for Europeans	"	" "	2,703
Dispensary at New Barracks	"	" "	307
Customs House, Ikang...	"	" "	219
Drainage Native Staff Quarters ...	"	" "	188
D.P.W.'s Bungalow with Offices and Stores for P.W.D. Yard.	"	" "	6,513
Extension of Verandahs to Senior Officer's House.	"	" "	447
New Barracks	In Progress.	Spent.	9,983
Marine Engineering Shops	"	"	2,152
Brick Tank in connection with extension of Water Supply.	"	"	680
Drainage and Sanitation of Duke Town	"	"	3,920
Extension of Printing Office and Quarters for the Government Printer.	"	"	883
Water Supply to European Firms, Calabar.	"	"	660

CROSS RIVER DIVISION.

Principal Works.	Completed and in Progress.	Total Cost and Amount Spent during the year.	
			£
Itu—			
Removal of Buildings from left to right bank of River.	Completed.	Total Cost.	440
Obubra Hill—			
Dispensary	"	" "	221
Bendi—			
Dispensary	"	" "	147

Eastern Division.

Principal Works.	Completed and in Progress.	Total Cost and Amount Spent during the year.	
			£
Bonny—			
Store for Divisional Engineer ...	Completed.	Cost.	211
Filling Swamp, Bonny School ...	„	„	500
Hospital and Dispensary	In Progress.	Spent.	203
Telegraph Office	Completed.	Cost.	149
Isolation Hospital	In Progress.	Spent.	117
Drainage Bonny Schools	Completed.	Cost.	350
Bonny Schools	„	„	10,000
Egwanga—			
Boat Shed	„	„	100
Degema—			
Hospital	In Progress.	Spent.	200
Quarters, Prison Staff	Completed.	Cost.	200
Akassa—			
Repairs to, and lengthening Pier, Lower Beach	In Progress.	Spent.	944
Repairs and extension to Slipway ...	Completed.	Cost.	3,435
Alteration to Mess Room	„	„	162
General in Division—			
Wells	—	Spent.	196
Sanitary Drainage	—	„	256

Western Division.

Principal Works.	Completed and in Progress.	Total Cost and Amount Spent during the year.	
			£
Forcados—			
Coal Store	Completed.	Total Cost.	260
Mess Room and Billiard Room ..	„	„ „	100
Customs Store and King's Warehouse.	In Progress.	Spent.	216
Telegraph Store	„	„	113
Sanitary Station	„	„	456
Reclamation of Swamp	—	„	656
Warri—			
Quarters for Clerks	In Progress.	„	322
Quarters for Divisional Commissioner.	„	„	284
Sapeli—			
Drainage and Sanitary Work ...	„	„	135
European Hospital	„	„	162
Rest House	„	„	265
Additions to Bungalows	„	„	126
Ifon—			
Prison...	„	„	250

CENTRAL DIVISION.

Principal Works.	Completed and in Progress	Total Cost and Amount Spent during the year.	
			£
Onitsha—			
District Offices [...	Completed.	Total Cost.	703
Bungalows and Mess Room ...	In Progress.	Spent.	2,013
Coal Store	Completed.	Total Cost.	345
Quarters for Foremen	In Progress.	Spent.	928
Prison...	"	"	1,812
General for Division—			
Sanitary Drainage	Completed.	Total Cost.	134

LOCAL PRODUCTION OF BUILDING MATERIALS.

188. This work has been carried on vigorously during the year throughout the Protectorate. Bricks are now made at 10 different stations, and at three of these, viz., Etehetem (on the Cross River) to serve Calabar, Warri, and Onitsha, steam plant is used.

The three Government steam saw-mills at Etehetem, Calabar, and Onitsha were kept actively employed. The output from the mill at Etehetem was over 12,000 cubic feet of good timber, at a cost of 2*s*. 2*d*. per cubic foot. The output at Onitsha was 5,000 cubic feet.

A great amount of joinery work was turned out from the Government shops at Calabar. Over 3,000 jobs were executed at a price which compares favourably with prices paid for the same work in England. In most cases saving amounted to as much as the freight would have been had the joinery been obtained from England.

MAINTENANCE OF ROADS.

189. Considerable work has been done by the Public Works Department maintaining existing roads and paths, and also in surveying and commencing work on new roads, notably in connection with roads around Calabar, between Warri and Sapeli, Sapeli and Ologbo, and Ologbo and Benin City.

As roads are constructed under the Roads Department, the responsibility for their maintenance will fall chiefly on the shoulders of District Officers, assisted by the Public Works Department.

ROADS.

190. The Department initiated to supervise the construction of properly-surveyed and graded roads having been only constituted at the end of 1904, the mileage of actually constructed road for the year under review was necessarily small.

Much time having to be expended on the preliminary surveys, there was but little opportunity to do more than inaugurate the construction in various places.

The staff, consisting for a considerable period of only one superintendent, and never exceeding three, was further hampered in many instances by the difficulty of obtaining suitable labour.

While, therefore, the actual construction is small, a considerable number of surveys have been made which will lighten the work for the current year.

191. The general scheme is to construct properly graded roads, 15 feet in width, suitable for wheeled traffic, between important centres.

The actual mileage surveyed was, approximately, 124, of which 11 miles have been actually constructed:—

Surveys made.	Mileage Surveyed.	Mileage of Construction completed.
Ikorekpo to Odukpani	5 miles	5 miles.
Calabar to Ikang	21 miles (Preliminary Survey).	—
Oron to Eket	Survey incomplete ...	—
Itu to Ikot-Ekpene	18 miles	1 mile.
Warri to Sapele	28 miles	5 miles.
Onitsha to Oka	26 miles	—
Asaba to Ibusa	11 miles	—

In addition to above, many hundred miles of native paths were widened and improved, and made usable for horses and bicycles.

The total expenditure on roads amounted to £6,302.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

192. The importance of the Department increases every year.

During 1905 five additions were made to the existing steam craft of 26 in commission, and 8 additions to a subsidiary fleet of over 150 miscellaneous craft. The running expenses of steam craft amounted to £30,604 for the year. The departmental statistics show the number of passengers carried as 10,168 for eight steam craft, over 4,090 tons of cargo for five of the same, exclusive of the Government yacht "Ivy," whilst three only of these show a total mileage steamed of 22,213, with a total for steam craft, exclusive of the yacht, of 134,730 miles steamed.

193. During the year 21 waterways were either completely or partially cleared for traffic; 11 new and six corrected charts

issued; and buoy and beacon supervision and placement of an extensive character maintained.

194. Regular and greatly appreciated mail service is carried on in various portions of the Protectorate by the Department.

195. A small marine station was during the year established at Warri, making three in all, the remaining two being at Akassa and Calabar.

At the former place—headquarters of the Marine—training of the native staff has been successfully instituted. During the year 20 students were admitted as apprentice seamen, 11 passing the required tests.

196. A school in connection with the Department's extensive engineering works has also been started, and evening classes, under a qualified schoolmaster, where elements of mechanics and drawing to scale are taught. Although there has been some improvement in the acquisition of skilled labour, yet the supply in no way as yet meets the demand. The engineering shop at Calabar, however, is able materially to assist the Public Works Department in skilled mechanic work.

197. The Government yacht "Ivy" has been engaged throughout the year in transport duty along the coast of Southern Nigeria and Lagos. She also convoyed from Sierra Leone the steam launch "Sybil," purchased from the Government of that Colony. The "Ivy" was also employed in lifting and examining the buoys in Protectorate waters.

198. The work at the Headquarter Office at Akassa increased very considerably during the year, more especially in connection with the collection of statistical details affecting the Department.

At the end of the year the European staff on the establishment numbered forty-four.

MILITARY.

199. The strength of the regiment remains the same as in 1904, viz., 44 officers, 1 pay and quartermaster (civilian), 25 British non-commissioned officers, and 1,350 native ranks.

At the end of 1904 the organization of the Artillery was altered from one 2·95 battery and one 7-pounder battery of four guns each to one 2·95 battery of six guns. This caused a reduction in the artillery personnel of 25 men, but the strength of the infantry was increased by a like amount.

Colonel Montanaro, C.B., gave up command of the regiment on August 3rd, on appointment to the command of the West African Regiment.

Brevet-Major Moorhouse was promoted to the command, and Brevet-Major Trenchard second in command.

200. On January 1st, 1905, three columns that had started operations in 1904 were still in the field, viz.:—

The South Ibibio Column.—Strength: 14 officers, 3 British non-commissioned officers, 361 rank and file (including 40 from Lagos), one 2·95 gun, 3 Maxims, under the command of Brevet Major Trenchard until 28th February, 1905.

Onitsha Hinterland Column.—Strength: 7 officers, 1 native officer, 3 British non-commissioned officers, 269 rank and file, one 2·95 gun, 2 Maxims, under the command of Brevet-Major Moorhouse until 23rd March, 1905.

Itche and Ogoni Patrols.—Strength: 8 officers, 1 British non-commissioned officer, 173 rank and file, one 2·95 gun, and two Maxims, under the command of Captain Hosley until 22nd March, 1905.

Owing to the various local disturbances, the following patrols were necessary:—

Eket Patrol.—Strength: 2 officers, 1 British non-commissioned officer, 72 rank and file, one Maxim, under the command of Lieutenant Halfpenny from 18th February, 1905, to 2nd March, 1905.

Ezza Patrol.—Strength: 9 officers, 3 British non-commissioned officers, 302 rank and file (including 97 Lagos Battalion), one 2·95 gun, and two Maxims, under the command of Captain Margesson from 7th March, 1905, to 3rd June, 1905.

Ihita Patrol.—Strength: 3 officers, 1 British non-commissioned officer, and 86 rank and file, 1 Maxim, under Lieutenant Halfpenny from 21st April, 1905, to 5th May, 1905.

Taylor Creek Patrol.—Strength: 4 officers, 2 British non-commissioned officers, 148 rank and file, one Maxim, under the command of Captain Hosley from 14th September, 1905, to 23rd October, 1905.

Kwale Patrol.—Strength: 2 officers, 1 British non-commissioned officer, and 70 rank and file, and one Maxim, under Captain Vassal from 7th October, 1905, to 15th October, 1905.

There are also two columns carrying out operations at present.

All these operations were brought to a successful conclusion, and the object of the patrol achieved with the exception of the Kwale Patrol; this small force met with most determined and unexpected resistance, and with three Europeans hit and 25 casualties among the rank and file it was compelled to return to its base. Two companies of the Lagos Battalion, under Brevet-Major Maclear, were despatched to deal with this country, and they were subsequently relieved by one and a half companies and a 2·95 gun under Captain Margesson, and the pacification of the country was completed early in 1906.

In November the lamented murder of Dr. Stewart necessitated the dispatch of a strong column to the Bende Onitsha

hinterland to deal with the natives concerned; the effect of the murder was to raise the whole countryside; strong opposition was met with, and the column under the command of Major Trenchard was still in the field at the end of the year.

Arms of precision to the number of 17,966 were either surrendered by or captured from the natives.

The total casualties during the year, exclusive of those suffered by the Bende Onitsha hinterland column, were as follows:—

—	Killed.	Wounded.
Officers	Nil.	Lieut. Irvine, dangerously. Captain Vassal, severely.
British Non-commissioned Officers	Nil.	One.
Rank and File	9	Fifty-four.

201. During the year the following deaths, discharges, desertions, and enlistments have taken place:—

—	Number.
Deaths:—	
Natural causes...	6
Executed	1
Committed Suicide	1
Total	8
Discharges	151
Desertions	17
Enlistments	215

Armament.

Artillery.—Six 2·95 B.L. mountain guns.

Infantry.—The infantry are armed with M.E. carbines, but directions have been received for re-arming them with the magazine rifle.

Reserve.

202. There is no reserve, but a scheme is being drawn up to provide one on the amalgamation of the Southern Nigeria Regiment and the Lagos Battalion, West African Frontier Force.

Intelligence Office.

203. The Intelligence Office, under Captain Beverley, has reached a high state of efficiency. It collates all maps, road

reports, and other information, and distributes copies to all officers and districts concerned. Its usefulness is by no means confined to purely military matters.

CIVIL POLICE.

204. The establishment of the civil police was increased during the year by the addition of four European officers and 85 men, and the authorized strength on 31st December, 1905, was one commissioner, five district officers, one inspector, three assistant inspectors, one instructor, 16 sergeants, 23 corporals, 33 lance corporals, 125 first class, 100 second class, and 177 third class constables, three clerks, one storekeeper, and one tailor.

Difficulty is still experienced in finding suitable recruits, and though the number of applicants does not diminish, not more than 2 per cent. of these are able to read and write. The training of the men is tedious and slow, but they show keenness, and have taken great interest in their courses of instruction. It has not yet been possible to fill the higher grades of the native rank and file. The actual strength on 31st December was deficient by six sergeants, six corporals, five lance corporals, 98 first class and 33 second class constables, and there were correspondingly 145 constables of the third class in excess of the establishment.

During the year 155 recruits were enlisted, six men were discharged (time expired), and 26 as inefficient or physically unfit for service; there were 38 dismissals and four deaths.

205. Detachments were in 1905 for the first time placed at Ikot-Ekpene, Oyo, Agbede, Ahoada, and in the Kwale district. Part of the detachment at Asaba was transferred to Onitsha, consequent on the transfer of the district headquarters to the latter place. The stations amongst which the force has been distributed have thus been increased to 31. At Calabar the work of the department has been greatly facilitated by the erection of offices and a bridewell close to the police and native courts. Accommodation has also been provided for 40 rank and file in brick houses. The number of cases instituted by the police at Calabar was 427. In 326 of these convictions were obtained, and in 101 the accused were acquitted. In addition, 241 cases were investigated, in which no proceedings were taken.

MINERAL SURVEY.

206. The investigation of the monazite deposits of the Oban Hills, which were described in the report for 1904, were continued during the year, and a number of new samples were sent to the Imperial Institute for report.

In the Report for 1904 it was pointed out that monazite was probably widely distributed and locally concentrated in certain sands. During a journey made through the Western and Central Divisions this theory was supported by evidence collected in the Kukuruku and neighbouring hills. Monazite occurred in some concentrates which were examined, but the quantities were much less than in the vicinity of the Oban Hills; it is possible, however, that additional field work will prove the occurrence of richer deposits.

Towards the Northern Nigeria boundary, near Owo and Yayu, some of the crystalline rocks bear a general resemblance to those of the Oban Hills, but much work remains to be done before the large area of the Western and Central Divisions can be said to be properly understood. Considerable interest attaches to the deposit of lignite, long known to the west of Asaba, on the right bank of the Niger. In a preliminary investigation outcrops alone were considered, and no boring to prove the thickness or extent of the bed was undertaken. The overburden covering the lignite consists of the common red clayey sand, and the fuel is associated with shales, often carbonaceous, sandstones, and thin beds of clay.

Sections were examined in three or four places representing an area of only some 7 square miles, and in the two farthest points the main bed of lignite measured 9 feet 6 inches and 6 feet in thickness; the area is probably considerably greater than has hitherto been proved. Two samples of lignite from Okpanam and Ibusa proved satisfactory as fuel in river steamers, in engineering workshops, and in brass-smelting furnaces when mixed with coke. These experiments indicate that the lignite deposit may prove a profitable source of fuel for steam craft on the Niger.

The examination of lead deposits in the Obubra district, on the right bank of the Cross River, had to be deferred owing to the unsettled state of the surrounding country.

During the latter part of the year a preliminary examination was made of the bituminous deposits in the Mafuoka area of Lagos, and a number of samples were despatched to the Imperial Institute for examination.

A Report by Professor Dunstan, Director of the Imperial Institute, on the composition and value of the minerals collected during 1903-5 has been issued as a Parliamentary Paper [Colonial Reports, Cd. 2876].

ADMINISTRATION.

207. The honour of appointment to a Knight Commandership of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George was conferred on High Commissioner Sir Walter Egerton, who was in residence in the Protectorate or adjacent territories from 1st January to 16th July. During his absence the Government was administered by Mr. J. J. Thorburn.

208. In March and April the High Commissioner undertook an overland journey from Lagos to Calabar, visiting en route the stations of Abeokuta, Ibadan, Ilesha, Owo, Ifon, Benin City, Agbor, Asaba, Onitsha, Oka, Oguta, Owerri Aba, Ikot Ekpene, and Itu. The distance travelled was approximately 560 miles, and the journey had previously neither been accomplished nor attempted.

209. Mr. W. F. W. Fosbery, Senior Divisional Commissioner, was appointed a Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George.

210. As explained under "Legislation," the appointment of the High Commissioner as Governor of the Colony of Lagos necessitated the delegation of his powers during his absence from the Protectorate. Under the Southern Nigeria Order in Council of 24th October, 1904, the following officers acted as Deputy High Commissioner during the year:—

Mr. W. F. W. Fosbery, C.M.G.—13th January to 23rd February and 28th September to 22nd December.

Mr. A. B. Harcourt—24th February to 3rd April.

Mr. J. J. Thorburn—3rd April to 18th April and 9th May to 30th July.

Mr. F. S. James, C.M.G.—1st to 16th July and 3rd August to 27th September.

211. The European establishment was increased by 33, and now numbers 245. An additional Puisne judge was appointed, and the other principal increases occurred in the establishments of the political, medical, telegraph, marine, and public works departments.

212. Mr. Justice Menendez, Puisne Judge, was appointed Chief Justice of Northern Nigeria, and Mr. J. Winkfield, Attorney-General, was appointed to the vacant judgeship.

In view of the approaching amalgamation with the Colony of Lagos, the office of Attorney-General was, on the appointment of Mr. Justice Winkfield, abolished, and the office of Solicitor-General created.

213. Colonel A. F. Montanaro, C.B., who had held the appointment of Commander of the Southern Nigeria Regiment

since 1901, was appointed to the command of the West African Regiment, Sierra Leone. He was succeeded in the command of the Southern Nigeria Regiment by Lieutenant-Colonel H. C. Moorhouse, D.S.O., who had previously held the appointment of Second in Command.

214. The importance of a knowledge of their languages in dealing with natives had long been recognised, but the variety of languages and dialects which are to be found in the Protectorate made the subject one of considerable difficulty. To encourage the study of native languages a scheme has received approval under which gratuities may be earned. Examinations in the higher and lower standards will be held half-yearly in June and December. The examination in the higher standard includes written papers, in addition to the colloquial examination of the lower standard. The languages which have been approved as subjects for examination are Yoruba, Ibo, Hausa, Uzi Ado, Efik, and Jekri.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

215. The Administration participated in the Liverpool Colonial Products Exhibition in January, and also in the Colonial and Indian Exhibition at the Crystal Palace in May. At the latter Gold Medals were awarded for timber, bronze curios, picture postcards, and photographs, and a Grand Prize was gained for general exhibit. In both exhibitions great assistance was given by several of the firms trading in the Protectorate, and thanks are due to Mr. Robert Miller, of the firm of Messrs. Alexander Miller Brother & Company for the personal interest which he evinced in adding to the success of the Southern Nigeria section at these exhibitions.

216. Two local exhibitions were held during the year, in which the natives displayed much interest. An exhibition of native arts and crafts, in which sections were included for agricultural products and live stock, was held at Calabar, and at Onitsha an industrial exhibition which was largely attended by the natives of the neighbouring districts.

217. Weekly transport services were instituted between Bonny, Degema, Brass, and Akassa, and on the Cross River. The latter service led to a considerable development of trade, and two European firms have since established branches on the Cross River and Enyong Creek.

218. The authority of Government is gradually being extended over the large tract of country lying between the Niger and Cross Rivers, and to further this object an additional station was established during the year at Abakalliki, due

north of Obubra, on the Cross River. When it is remembered that it was only in the end of 1901 that the first efforts were made to bring this area under effective control, the progress is noteworthy. The natives show appreciation of the principles and aims of Government, and an increasingly intelligent interest in measures for the better administration of the country, but the eradication of habits and customs which have received the sanction of long usage is only capable of gradual accomplishment, in which the exercise of untiring patience must be an essential element.

W. FOSBERY,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

9th September, 1906.

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX A.

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES of IMPORT for the TWELVE MONTHS ended 31st DECEMBER, 1905, as compared with the same period of the preceding year.

Articles.	Total Imports.				United Kingdom.				Germany.			
	Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1905.		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1904.		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1905.		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1904.		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1905.		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity	Value.	Quantity	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£		£		£		£
1. Aërated waters .. .. .. dozen. †	37,097	5,327	32,878	4,559	22,670	3,485	19,940	3,049	13,193	1,671	12,313	1,458
2. Ale, beer, porter and cider .. doz. pints.†	27,152	4,436	25,602	4,179	16,761	2,704	17,048	2,801	9,991	1,653	8 315	1,341
3. Do. do. .. „ qrts. †	4,680	1,096	2,819	738	1,651	403	1,532	399	2,697	604	1,245	328
4. Do do. (in wood) imp. galls.†	154	15	88	12	68	4	—	—	86	11	88	12
5. Bags and sacks .. .. .. packages.‡	23,354	13,351	2,646	13,502	23,165	12,121	2,503	12,582	153	1,105	143	920
6. Beads.. .. .. „ §	1,395	7,451	1,519	9,342	751	3,431	766	3,182	587	3,717	708	4,699
7. Beef and pork .. .. .. „ §	5,943	11,891	5,664	10,796	5,691	11,508	5,356	10,444	229	342	200	343
8. Boats and canoes .. .. .. number. ‡	97	3,390	120	5 712	65	2,840	78	5,148	5	437	13	438
9. Books, printed .. .. .. packages.‡	695	1,185	871	1,583	641	1,131	795	1,546	51	43	69	36
10. Brass and copperware .. .. „ §	1,018	2,916	2,116	4,658	923	2,581	2,057	4,359	88	308	59	298
11. Bread and biscuits .. .. lbs. §	2,365,263	11,071	1,558,927	7,514	2,360,274	11,039	1,558,927	7,513	—	—	180	1
12. Building and roofing materials. packages.‡	212,233	75,562	218,017	70,443	191,019	68,035	208,121	66,630	9,077	5,351	5,180	2,581
13. Chemicals and drugs .. .. „ §	4,433	11,576	3,411	9,805	4,260	11,306	3,307	9,679	151	227	86	117
14. Cigars.. .. .. number. †	503,691	1,560	332,350	1,045	254,840	668	134,500	337	125,943	409	103,450	336
15. Cigarettes .. .. „ †	4,851,020	3,253	3,820,540	2,828	4,802,910	3,190	3,790,770	2,800	31,610	48	28,770	27
16. Coals .. .. tons. ‡	14,109	15,990	14,145	15,704	13,670	15,190	13,212	15,138	439	800	929	566
17. Coopers' stores .. .. .. packages.‡	80,493	74,862	93,837	83,479	73,847	63,642	86,783	74,457	783	390	312	266
18. Cotton goods .. .. .. „ §	36,695	368,527	57,366	356,976	35,502	354,634	56,581	347,049	613	9,895	443	7,521
19. Earthenware .. .. .. „ §	2,043	7,775	4,695	8,739	1,806	7,153	4,364	7,737	167	497	288	974
Firearms—												
20 Guns—Danes .. .. .. number. †	14,578	5,289	8,530	2,998	12,619	4,603	5,963	2,106	240	94	780	281
21. „ other than danes .. „ †	768	3,965	2,419	5,881	732	3,847	2,042	5,554	9	33	33	66
22. Revolvers and pistols.. .. „ †	192	855	245	1,079	181	820	236	1,061	4	8	2	3

23. Fish, salted and cured	packages.*	1,650	1,391	3,658	2,844	955	678	1,713	1,382	646	661	1,794	1,382
24. Flour	„ *	4,039	3,379	3,008	2,717	3,796	3,184	2,928	2,649	218	187	46	58
25. Furniture	„ *	3,068	9,302	2,146	6,403	2,605	8,177	1,752	5,286	326	950	314	1,051
26. Glassware	„ *	1,440	2,619	1,129	1,856	666	1,297	660	1,167	286	640	208	363
27. Gunpowder	lbs. †	1,036,937	13,588	939,276	12,259	1,019,837	13,360	879,562	11,495	17,100	228	58,763	752
28. Harberdashery	packages.*	333	1,503	283	1,503	296	1,353	221	1,204	28	142	47	181
29. Hardware and machinery ..	„ *	184,609	77,548	148,064	74,043	171,821	57,613	136,146	55,605	8,747	15,100	8,930	14,560
30. Jewellery and plate	„ *	154	1,103	206	974	114	784	181	746	36	310	24	225
31. Kerosene and all lamp oils ..	imp. galls.†	448,559	13,221	378,127	12,564	21,295	780	30,936	1,247	35,451	1,385	51,216	2,063
32. Leather goods	packages.*	794	4,332	1,008	6,460	714	4,047	963	6,311	57	217	27	79
33. Perfumery	„ *	1,363	3,043	1,373	3,082	808	1,607	804	1,694	451	1,151	534	1,292
34. Pipes—Smoking	dozen. *	227,059	2,677	223,764	2,564	191,047	2,258	196,353	2,299	27,313	308	24,412	248
35. Poultry	number. ‡	19,378	978	10,748	608	435	69	368	71	599	160	470	109
36. Provisions	packages.*	36,314	52,256	39,547	50,075	32,725	47,073	34,759	45,292	2,321	3,738	2,029	2,855
37. Rice	cwts. *	93,254	38,562	69,975	30,967	85,876	35,477	65,137	28,990	6,112	2,570	4,702	1,904
38. Salt	„ †	418,310	31,654	510,056	38,565	411,213	5[illegible]924	505,462	38,058	6,692	695	4,581	504
39. Silk goods	packages.*	1,234	21,382	1,116	19,223	1,081	18,[illegible]42	1,019	16,481	122	2,689	84	2,657
40. Soap	„ *	141,753	11,990	126,476	14,025	138,553	11,[illegible]78	124,449	13,924	2,759	134	2,016	97
Spirits—													
41. Brandy	imp. galls.†	1,614	1,220	1,056	961	1,118	1,047	901	886	541	160	120	54
42. Gin	„ †	1,687,159	159,974	1,866,819	176,153	10,740	2,895	14,360	3,020	565,153	53,793	742,650	68,156
43. Liqueurs	„ †	1,682	384	569	200	135	143	98	110	1,506	234	459	88
44. Rum	„ †	269,057	16,076	265,178	14,516	74,308	5,212	71,974	4,482	175,309	9,755	170,771	8,868
45. Whisky	„ †	24,248	10,473	20,225	8,650	23,277	10,095	20,057	8,579	277	85	82	29
46. Unenumerated	„ †	2,037	1,861	3,012	1,866	552	634	1,122	716	1,197	903	1,644	882
47. Stationery	packages.*	2,576	6,703	1,783	6,632	2,459	6,439	1,708	6,478	90	204	63	136
48. Steam launches	number. ‡	10	3,346	13	16,131	10	3,346	12	14,923	—	—	1	1,208
49. Sugar	cwts. †	5,557	6,471	6,607	6,394	5,414	6,322	6,424	6,246	123	127	161	129
50. Tobacco—Manufactured ..	lbs. †	4,718	764	5,470	809	4,581	755	5,395	803	109	6	68	5
51. Do. Unmanufactured ..	„ †	3,225,930	69,507	3,826,565	85,352	3,092,692	66,632	3,733,931	83,224	124,451	2,623	88,638	1,994
52. Umbrellas	packages.*	1,043	12,223	999	10,943	923	11,263	907	10,214	79	807	74	722
53. Wearing apparel	„ *	4,451	46,261	4,329	43,999	3,811	41,036	3,965	40,942	460	4,422	240	2,762
Wines—													
54. Claret	imp. galls.†	4,563	1,009	6,226	1,403	2,058	628	3,273	979	991	268	962	238
55. Other kinds	„ †	8,302	2,654	8,263	2,420	4,164	2,019	2,989	1,669	3,969	599	4,821	674
56. Sparkling	„ †	2,054	3,329	1,908	3,099	1,801	3,124	1,738	2,978	232	200	159	107
57. Woollen goods	packages.*	850	11,357	782	12,787	755	10,793	720	12,430	73	475	28	231
58. Other Articles (including freight, packages and insurance).		—	279,877	—	260,111	—	208,926	—	198,669	—	27,085	—	28,781
Total Imports		—	1,555,360	—	1,554,730	—	1,204,545	—	1,214,820	—	160,654	—	168,056
Specie		—	198,176	—	237,739	—	117,719	—	201,734	—	—	—	—
Grand Total		—	1,753,536	—	1,792,469	—	1,322,264	—	1,416,554	—	160,654	—	168,056

* Liable to Ad valorem Duty. † Liable to Specific Duty. ‡ Free of Duty.

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES of IMPORT for the TWELVE MONTHS ended 31st DECEMBER, 1905, as compared with the same period of the preceding year.—*continued.*

Articles		Holland.				Other Countries.				Increase + Decrease −		Remarks.	
		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1905.		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1904.		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1905.		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1904.					
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
			£		£		£		£		£		
1. Aërated waters	dozen. †	928	119	397	48	306	52	28	4	+ 4,419	+ 768		1.
2. Ale, beer, porter and cider ..	doz. pints. †	400	79	235	36	—	—	4	1	+ 1,550	+ 257		2.
3. Do. do. ..	„ qrts. †	248	76	41	10	64	13	1	1	+ 1,841	+ 358		3.
4. Do. do. (in wood)	imp. galls. †	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+ 66	+ 3		4.
5. Bags and sacks	packages. ‡	—	—	—	—	36	125	—	—	—	- 151		5.
6. Beads	„ *	3	35	19	161	54	268	97	1,300	—	- 1,891		6.
7. Beef and pork	„ *	—	—	—	—	23	41	8	9	—	- 1,095		7.
8. Boats and canoes	number. ‡	1	13	—	—	26	100	29	126	—	- 2,322		8.
9. Books, printed	packages. ‡	—	—	—	—	3	11	7	1	—	- 398		9.
10. Brass and copperware	„ *	—	—	—	—	7	27	1	1	—	- 1,742		10.
11. Bread and biscuits	lbs. *	—	—	—	—	5,016	32	—	—	—	+ 3,557		11.
12. Building and roofing materials	packages. ‡	9,256	1,300	3,870	984	2,881	876	846	248	—	+ 5,119		12.
13. Chemicals and drugs	„ *	1	13	—	—	21	30	18	9	—	+ 1,771		13.
14. Cigars	number. †	107,597	459	90,400	355	15,311	24	4,000	17	+ 171,341	+ 515		14.
15. Cigarettes	„ †	—	—	—	—	16,500	15	1,000	1	+1,030 480	+ 425		15.
16. Coals	tons. ‡	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+ 286		16.
17. Coopers' stores	packages. ‡	5,582	10,538	6,742	8,756	281	292	—	—	—	- 8,617		17.
18. Cotton goods	„ *	243	1,401	120	1,100	337	2,597	222	1,306	—	+ 11,551		18.
19. Earthenware	„ *	28	81	3	12	42	44	40	16	—	- 984		19.
Firearms—													
20. Guns—Danes	number. †	1,719	592	1,757	596	—	—	30	15	+ 6,048	+ 2,291		20.
21. „ other than danes ..	„ †	—	—	—	—	27	85	344	261	- 1,651	- 1,916		21.
22. Revolvers and pistols	„ †	—	—	1	1	7	27	6	14	- 53	- 224		22.

23.	Fish, salted and cured	packages.*	—	—	—	—	49	52	151	80	—	-	1,453		23.
24.	Flour	„ *	—	—	—	—	25	8	34	10	—	+	662		24.
25.	Furniture	„ *	13	10	2	10	124	165	78	56	—	+	2,899		25.
26.	Glassware	„ *	472	672	243	320	16	10	12	6	—	+	763		26.
27.	Gunpowder	lbs. †	—	—	—	—	—	—	951	12	+ 97,661	+	1,329		27.
28.	Harberdashery	packages.*	—	—	—	—	9	8	15	118	—	—			28.
29.	Hardware and machinery ..	„ *	3,365	3,993	2,855	3,715	676	842	123	163	—	+	3,505		29.
30.	Jewellery and plate	„ *	—	—	—	—	4	9	1	3	—	+	129		30
31.	Kerosene and all lamp oils ..	imp. galls.†	—	—	—	—	391,183	11,056	295,975	9,254	+ 70,432	+	657		31.
32.	Leather goods	packages.*	—	—	—	—	23	68	18	70	—	-	2,128		32.
33.	Perfumery	„ *	81	277	27	95	23	8	8	1	—	-	39		33.
34.	Pipes—Smoking	dozen. *	5,712	66	2,664	13	2,987	45	335	4	—	+	113		34.
35.	Poultry	number.‡	—	—	48	6	18,344	749	9,862	422	—	+	370		35.
36.	Provisions	packages.*	695	936	856	821	573	509	1,903	1,107	—	+	2,181		36.
37.	Rice	cwts. *	—	—	—	—	1,266	515	136	73	—	+	7,595		37.
38.	Salt	„ †	—	—	—	—	405	35	13	3	- 91,746	-	6,911		38.
39.	Silk goods	packages.*	—	—	—	—	31	251	13	85	—	+	2,159		39.
40.	Soap	„ *	5	30	3	2	436	48	8	2	—	-	2,035		40.
	Spirits—														
41.	Brandy	imp. galls.†	11	1	—	—	34	12	35	21	+ 558	+	259		41.
42.	Gin	„ †	1,103,348	102,288	1,107,465	104,623	7,918	998	2,344	354	- 179,660	-	16,179		42.
43.	Liqueurs	„ †	16	4	8	1	25	3	4	1	+ 1,113	+	184		43.
44.	Rum	„ †	7,752	471	5,675	293	11,688	638	16,758	873	+ 3,879	+	1,560		44.
45.	Whisky	„ †	50	11	2	2	644	282	84	40	+ 4,023	+	1,823		45.
46.	Unenumerated	„ †	270	313	243	266	18	11	3	2	- 975	-	5		46.
47.	Stationery	packages.*	—	—	—	—	27	60	12	18	—	+	71		47.
48.	Steam launches	number.‡	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	-	12,785		48.
49.	Sugar	cwts. †	5	4	—	—	15	18	22	19	- 1,050	+	77		49.
50.	Tobacco—Manufactured ..	lbs. †	—	—	—	—	28	3	7	1	- 752	-	45		50.
51.	Do. Unmanufactured ..	„ †	—	—	—	—	8,787	252	3,996	134	- 600,635	-	15,845		51.
52.	Umbrellas	packages.*	—	—	—	—	41	153	18	7	—	+	1,280		52.
53.	Wearing apparel	„ *	9	162	3	75	171	641	121	220	—	+	2,262		53.
	Wines—														
54.	Claret	imp. galls.†	—	—	—	—	1,514	113	1,991	186	- 1,663	-	394		54.
55.	Other kinds	„ †	146	27	189	28	22	9	264	49	+ 39	+	234		55
56.	Sparkling	„ †	19	2	—	—	2	3	11	14	+ 146	+	230		56.
57.	Woollen Goods.	packages.*	7	49	16	99	15	40	18	27	—	-	1,430		57.
58.	Other articles (including freight, packages and insurance).		—	26,124	—	24,817	—	17,742	—	7,844	—	+	19,766		58.
	Total Imports		—	150,146	—	147,245	—	40,015	—	24,609	—	—			
	Specie		—	—	—	—	—	80,457	—	36,005	—	—			
	Grand Total		—	150,146	—	147,245	—	120,472	—	60,614	—	—			

* Liable to Ad valorem Duty. † Liable to Specific Duty. ‡ Free of Duty.

APPENDIX B.

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES of EXPORT for the TWELVE MONTHS ended 31st DECEMBER, 1905, as compared with the same period of the preceding year.

Articles.		Total Exports.				United Kingdom.				Germany.			
		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1905.		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1904.		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1905.		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1904.		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1905.		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1904.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			£		£		£	£	£		£		£
1. Benniseed	lbs.	282,924	887	—	—	282,924	887	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cocoa	„	388,479	6,019	367,728	4,982	172,225	2,551	155,978	2,158	192,370	3,105	208,552	2,792
3. Coffee	„	7,066	65	41,933	301	4,542	35	38,690	262	2,524	30	2,703	38
4. Cola (Kola) nuts	packages.	45	81	44	49	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Cotton, raw	lbs.	96,306	245	285,639	2,501	96,306	245	285,639	2,501	—	—	—	—
6. Ebony	tons.	388	1,183	321	1,180	52	170	156	558	336	1,013	165	622
7. Fibre	packages.	7,290	4,052	5,781	3,678	7,289	4,051	5,715	3,648	1	1	66	30
8. Gums	lbs.	493,246	3,881	631,568	5,408	493,246	3,881	631,568	5,408	—	—	—	—
9. Ground nuts	cwt.	15,800	6,956	15,414	4,999	15,800	6,956	15,414	4,999	—	—	—	—
10. Hides (cow hides)	number.	22	5	6	1	22	5	6	1	—	—	—	—
11. Ivory	lbs.	7,363	2,263	11,763	3,469	6,593	2,064	6,393	1,809	651	171	5,370	1,660
12. Mahogany	logs.	10,614	36,365	8,767	28,614	10,614	36,365	7,380	23,356	—	—	1,387	5,258
„	cubic ft.	54,117	2,330	642,545	30,519	54,117	2,330	518,175	23,350	—	—	124,370	7,169
13. Manioc	lbs.	—	—	1,708	8	—	—	1,708	8	—	—	—	—
14. Oils, medicinal	packages.	683	317	2,559	3,759	521	282	2,549	3,724	362	35	10	26
15. Palm kernels	tons.	63,645	599,010	70,500	597,953	12,548	107,278	16,013	131,948	48,979	470,874	50,555	428,775
16. Palm oil	imp. galls.	11,391,476	678,844	13,028,833	710,056	10,405,575	619,434	11,505,730	629,279	460,045	27,982	418,183	24,289
17. Rubber	lbs.	2,842,831	226,387	2,408,926	158,991	2,752,216	223,793	2,370,694	156,666	84,510	2,098	34,284	2,135
18. Shea butter	tons.	205	5,081	164	3,715	205	5,081	66	1,489	—	—	98	2,226
19. „ nuts	„	1,356	12,189	2,120	18,675	1,199	10,783	1,497	13,473	157	1,406	623	5,202
20. Other products		—	2,913	—	6,837	—	2,738	—	5,920	—	105	—	857
21. Foreign goods		—	119,759	—	132,851	—	88,335	—	102,409	—	16,858	—	15,568
Total Exports		—	1,708,832	—	1,718,537	—	1,117,264	—	1,112,966	—	523,678	—	496,647
Specie—													
Commercial		—	2,109	—	180	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Government		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grand Total		—	1,710,941	—	1,718,717	—	1,117,264	—	1,112,966	—	523,678	—	496,647

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES of EXPORT for the TWELVE MONTHS ended 31st DECEMBER, 1905, as compared with the same period of the preceding year—*continued.*

Articles.	France.				Other Countries.				Increase + Decrease −		Remarks.	
	Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1905.		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1904.		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1905.		Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1904.					
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
		£		£		£		£		£		
1. Benniseed .. .. lbs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+ 282,924	+ 887		1.
2. Cocoa .. .. „	—	—	—	—	23,884	363	3,198	32	+ 20,751	+ 1,037		2.
3. Coffee .. .. „	—	—	—	—	—	—	240	1	− 34,567	− 236		3.
4. Cola (Kola) nuts .. .. .. packages.	—	—	—	—	45	81	44	49	+ 1	+ 32		4.
5. Cotton, raw .. .. .. lbs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	− 189,333	− 2,256		5.
6. Ebony .. .. tons.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+ 67	+ 3		6.
7. Fibre .. .. packages.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+ 1,509	+ 374		7.
8. Gums .. .. lbs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	− 138,322	− 1,527		8.
9. Ground nuts .. .. .. cwt.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+ 386	+ 1,957		9.
10. Hides (cow hides) .. .. number.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+ 16	+ 4		10.
11. Ivory .. .. lbs.	—	—	—	—	119	28	—	—	− 4,400	− 1,206		11.
12. Mahogany .. .. logs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+ 1,847	+ 7,751		12.
„ .. .. cubic ft.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	− 588,428	− 28,189		
13. Manioc .. .. lbs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	− 1,708	− 8		13.
14. Oils, medicinal .. .. .. packages.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	− 1,676	− 3,433		14.
15. Palm kernels .. .. .. tons.	—	—	—	—	2,118	20,858	3932	37,230	− 6,856	+ 1,057		15.
16. Palm oil .. .. imp. galls.	500,935	30,172	1,104,917	56,488	24,921	1,256	—	—	− 1,637,357	− 31,212		16.
17. Rubber .. .. lbs.	—	—	—	—	6 105	496	3,948	190	+ 433,905	+ 67,396		17.
18. Shea butter .. .. tons.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+ 41	+ 1,366		18.
19. „ nuts .. .. „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	− 764	− 6,486		19.
20. Other products	—	—	—	—	—	70	—	60	—	− 3,924		20.
21. Foreign goods	—	4 200	—	10,043	—	10,366	—	4 831	—	− 13,092		21.
Total Exports	—	34,372	—	66,531	—	33.518	—	42,393	—	− 9 705	—	
Specie—												
Commercial	—	—	—	—	—	2,109	—	180	—	+ 1,929	—	
Government	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Grand Total	—	34,372	—	66,531	—	35,627	—	42,573	—	− 7,776	—	

APPENDIX C.

Shipping Table.

1902.

Flag.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Steam—						
British ..	260	304,236	1,149,860 7 8	253	296,157	1,096,925 4 4
German ..	42	55,310	96,621 2 1	41	53,877	157,771 1 5
French ..	1	1,236		1	1,236	
Dutch ..	2	22		2	22	
Norwegian..	1	724		1	724	
Sail—						
British ..	4	1,404	Included in value of Steam Vessels.	4	1,404	Included in value of Steam Vessels.
American ..	1	570		1	570	
Swedish ..	1	403		1	403	
Spanish ..	1	6		1	6	
Total ..	313	363,911	1,246,481 9 9	305	354,399	1,254,696 5 9

1903.

Flag.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Steam—						
British ..	298	374,866	1,382,504 4 2	292	368,492	1,190,411 8 3
German ..	71	68,946	110,243 15 8	70	68,800	241,572 18 1
French ..	3	4,717		3	4,717	
Norwegian..	3	2,340		3	2,340	
Dutch ..	1	11		1	11	
Sail—						
British ..	3	797	Included in value of Steam Vessels.	3	797	Included in value of Steam Vessels.
Total ..	379	451,677	1,492,747 19 10	372	445,157	1,431,984 6 4

1904.

Flag.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Steam—						
British ..	349	444,134	1,651,447 15 0	352	444,904	1,509,190 3 11
German ..	95	90,548	141,021 1 5	94	88,280	209,526 14 4
Norwegian	1	683		1	683	
Danish ..	1	729		1	729	
Sail—						
British ..	4	1,946	Included in value of steam vessels.	3	955	Included in value of steam vessels.
Portuguese..	1	60		1	60	
Total ..	451	538,100	1,792,468 16 5	452	535,611	1,718,716 18 3

1905.

Flag.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Steam—						
British ..	381	495,606	1,615,222 2 7	376	480,729	1,497,537 9 4
German ..	87	81,315	138,314 0 7	88	83,389	213,403 17 7
Norwegian..	1	724		1	724	
Danish ..	1	729		1	729	
Sail—						
British ..	5	1,799	Included in value of Steam Vessels.	4	1,428	Included in value of Steam Vessels.
Total ..	475	570,173	1,753,536 3 2	470	566,999	1,710,941 6 11

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37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904–5.

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No. 554.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

REPORT FOR 1906.

(For Report for 1905, *see* No. 512.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
February, 1908.

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No. 554.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

(For Report for 1905, *see* No. 512.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Lagos,
Southern Nigeria,
21st October, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the usual report on this Colony and Protectorate for the year 1906, the preparation of which was considerably delayed by changes in the staff of the Secretariat.

2. The year was one of exceptional prosperity, which has, I am glad to say, been fully maintained during the current year.

I have, &c.,

J. J. THORBURN,
Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Elgin, P.C., K.G., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
&c., &c., &c.

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I.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

1. The year 1906 was a record one for trade and revenue. The total sum collected amounted to £1,088,717, which exceeded the original estimate by £64,055 and was £136,968 more than the revenue for the year 1905. Four-fifths of this revenue was derived from Customs duties—a specific duty on seventeen articles of import, and an ad valorem duty of 10 per centum on the value of most other imports.

The amount collected—£1,088,717—places the Colony and Protectorate, as regards revenue, in the premier position of the British Colonies on the West Coast of Africa.

2. The revenue contributions from the Provinces towards the total collected, compared with the collections for 1905, were as follows:—

—	1906.	1905.	Increase.
	£	£	£
i. Western Province	424,862	379,684	45,178
ii. Central Province	213,580	572,065	91,790
iii. Eastern Province	450,275		
Total	1,088,717	951,749	136,968

From this it will be seen that the increase in revenue over 1905 was general to all the Provinces; and of the total increase of £136,968 the Western Province contributed £45,178, and the Central and Eastern Provinces (the old Protectorate of Southern Nigeria) £91,790. Detailed particulars of increases and decreases under each head of revenue, as compared with the previous year, are given in paragraph 6.

3. Of the total revenue collected—£1,088,717—Customs duties contributed £885,858 (as compared with £860,000 originally estimated and £79[illegible],112 for the previous year), or 81·4 per cent. of the whole:—

—	Revenue.		Per cent.
	Total.	Customs.	
	£	£	
i. Western Province	424,862	281,381	66·2
ii. Central Province	213,580	186,905	87·5
iii. Eastern Province	450,275	417,572	92·7
Total	1,088,717	885,858	81·4

The lower percentage of Customs revenue to the whole in the Western Province is explained by its large receipts under "Railway" (£84,842) and "Interest" (£22,452) which were not enjoyed by the other Provinces. The percentage of Customs duties to the whole revenue in 1905, for all Provinces, was 84 per cent., which shows a satisfactory tendency in 1906 to development in sources of revenue other than Customs, towards which Head 3, "Licences" (increase over 1905 £1,317), Head 4, "Fees, &c." (increase over 1905 £22,507), Head 5, "Postal Revenue" (increase over 1905 £3,925), Head 6, "Interest" (increase over 1905 £10,246), and Head 9, "Railway Receipts" (increase over 1905 £10,456) principally contributed.

4. Of the total Customs receipts—£885,858—specific duties contributed £754,888 and ad valorem duties £130,970, against £662,124 and £130,799 respectively for 1905, as follows:—

—	Year.				Increase + Decrease −
	1906.		1905.		
	Quantity.	Duty.	Quantity.	Duty.	Duty.
		£		£	£
Specific Duties:—					
On Spirits ... ... (gallons)	3,321,903	600,784	2,776,396	504,025	+ 96,7[illegible]
„ Salt... ... ... (cwts.)	547,820	26,963	550,210	27,877	− [illegible]
„ Tobacco ... ... (lbs.)	5,956,198	82,479	4,280,020	71,120	+ 11[illegible]
„ Kerosene ... ... (gallons)	1,067,007	8,823	947,809	8,136	+ [illegible]
„ Other Articles	—	35,839	—	50,966	− 15,127
Total Specific ...	—	754,888	—	662,124	+ 92,764
Ad valorem Duties:—					
On Cottons ... ... (packages)	44,003	75,654	86,695	83,487	− 7,833
„ Earthenware ... „	6,040	1,488	2,043	1,646	− 158
„ Hardware ... „	144,015	6,971	177,540	7,557	− 586
„ Provisions ... „	68,120	6,917	42,175	7,030	− 113
„ Rice ... ... (cwt.)	112,051	4,411	114,478	4,289	+ 122
„ Silk Goods ... (packages)	2,354	5,998	1,234	3,160	+ 2,838
„ Soap ... ... „	181,727	2,237	141,753	1,662	+ 575
„ Wearing Apparel „	5,556	5,905	4,451	5,154	+ 751
„ Woollens ... „	1,190	1,712	850	1,721	− 9
„ Other Articles ... „	—	19,677	—	15,093	+ 4,584
Total Ad valorem ...	—	130,970	—	130,799	+ 171
Export Duty on Timber ...	—	Nil	—	6,189	− 6,189
Total Receipts ...	—	885,858	—	799,112	+ 86,746

The estimated receipts from Customs duties for 1906 were:—

Specific duties	...£716,400
Ad valorem duties	143,600
Total ...	...£860,000

against £885,858 actually received. The specific duties received were £38,488 more than anticipated, whereas the ad valorem duties fell £12,630 short of the estimate, a nett gain over the estimates of £25,858.

5. From the foregoing table it will be seen that the increase of £86,746 in Customs receipts over 1905 was mainly due to the large increased quantities of spirits and unmanufactured tobacco taken into consumption during the year. The increase in the Customs tariff on spirits—from 3*s*. 6*d*. to 4*s*. a gallon—did not come into force until the 22nd December, 1906, so that little benefit to the revenue from the increased rate of duty would be felt during the year under review.

6. The following statement shows the actual revenue received under the various heads in 1906, as compared with the years 1904 and 1905, with notes explanatory of the increases or decreases:—

Item.	Head of Revenue.	1904.	1905.	1906.	Remarks explanatory of the increase or decrease between 1905 and 1906.
		£	£	£	
1	Customs Duties	773,537	799,112	885,858	Increased Imports—principally Spirits and Tobacco —liable to Customs duties.
2	Harbour, &c., Lighthouse Dues	1,542	1,698	1,431	The larger receipts for 1905 were due to payment of arrears of previous years.
3	Licences and Internal Revenue, &c. ...	14,419	17,711	19,028	Increased receipts generally under all sub-heads, especially under Liquor Licences and Transport services.
4	Fees of Court or Office, payments, Specific Services, &c., Re-imbursements in aid.	16,277	24,621	47,128	Larger sales by Government Departments and increased receipts, Electric Light, Sales of Ice, &c., and refunds by Native Courts. The new sub-head of "Fees Forestry Department" realised over £12,000.
5	Postal Revenue	7,594	7,915	11,840	Larger sales for new Telegraph services and general increase in correspondence.
6	Rent of Government Property	483	1,705	563	In 1905 receipts for "Sales of Crown Lands" were wrongly credited to this head. See Head 10 "Land Sales."
7	Interest	5,125	15,391	25,637	Loan Funds placed at interest.
8	Miscellaneous...	8,957	8,724	10,730	Transfer of "Ivy" Repair Fund to Revenue account in 1906.
9	Railway and Tramway	59,004	74,386	84,842	General increase in Traffic.
10	Land Sales	1,198	485	1,660	See note against Head 6, Receipts properly classified in 1906.
	Total	888,136	951,748	1,088,717	

EXPENDITURE—(1) From revenue.

7. The total actual expenditure for all Provinces, met from revenue, was £1,056,290, against £1,034,035 originally estimated, and £998,561 for the previous year. The Provincial expenditure was as follows:—

Province.	1905.	1906.		Comparison.	
	Actual.	Estimated	Actual.	Actual 1906 *v.* Actual 1905.	Actual 1906 *v.* Estimated 1906.
	£	£	£	£	£
Western ...	414,633	406,235	450,383	+35,750	+44,148
Central }	583,928	627 800	146,937	+21,979	—21,893
Eastern }			458,970		
Total ...	998,561	1,034,035	1,056,290	+57,729	+22,255

9. Included in the Extraordinary expenditure in paragraph four heads of (*a*) Personal Emoluments, (*b*) Other Charges, (*c*) Railway, and (*d*) Extraordinary Expenditure—was as follows:—

Head.	Year.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1905.	1906.		
	£	£	£	£
(*a*) Personal Emoluments ...	335,617	382,337	46,720	—
(*b*) Other Charges	331,621	366 236	34,615	—
(*c*) Railway and Tramway	60,417	61,408	991	—
	727,655	809,981	82,326	—
(*d*) Extraordinary Expenditure (including contributions to Northern Nigeria).	270,906	246,309	—	24,597
Total	998,561	1,056,290	82,326	24,597

Nett increase 1906, £57,729.

9. Included in the Extraordinary expenditure in paragraph 8 is a sum of £75,000, which was contributed by Southern Nigeria in 1906 towards the expenditure of Northern Nigeria by order of the Secretary of State. The contribution has been decreased to £71,250, payable during the calendar year 1907.

10. The following statement shows the actual expenditure incurred under the various heads in 1906, as compared with the years 1904 and 1905, with notes explanatory of the increases or decreases:—

Item.	Head of Expenditure.	1904.	1905.	1906.	Remarks explanatory of Increase or Decrease.
		£	£	£	
1	Charge on account of Public Debt...	55,008	57,945	70,083	Increased loan.
2	Pensions and Gratuities	7,841	9,172	12,052	Increase in pension list and gratuities.
3	Governor's Office	8,792	7,769	9,423	Purchase of motor car and motor bicycle.
4	Colonial Secretariat	8,810	9,608	12,075	Increased establishment and duty pay.
5	Political and Administrative ...	45,564	58,310	66,569	Increased establishment and duty pay for new territories brought under effective control. *See* "Saving" under Head 6.
6	Judicial	13,129	9,929	9,195	Transfer of District Commissioners to Head 5 in 1906.
7	Legal and Registration	2,083	2,038	2,610	Increased salaries and duty pay.
8	Treasury and Customs	25,373	31,724	33,086	Reorganization on amalgamation and extra Staff for increased trade.
9	Postal	—	—	—	Increased telegraph communication, 1906.
10	Telegraphs	10,625	11,449	17,890	
11	Audit	3,012	3,189	5,351	Increased establishment for more efficient local audit.
12	Printing	3,950	5,279	6,841	Increased establishment and plant.
13	West African Frontier Force ...	89,891	90,609	84,169	Savings on establishment and less expenditure on other charges.
14	Marine	78,770	81,666	92,195	Increased establishment and number of craft maintained.
15	Civil Police	25,398	29,198	31,411	Increased establishment.
16	Prisons	19,711	21,822	22,179	Casual.
17	Forestry and Agriculture	12,152	16,124	17,401	Increased establishment and quantity of seeds, &c. for distribution.
18	Medical	37,902	42,774	45,610	Increased expenditure on personal emoluments and on Hospitals, &c.
19	Sanitary	5,429	4,137	2,613	Western Province expenditure for 1906, shewn under Public Works Department Head.
20	Native Affairs	12,844	9,344	8,964	Casual.
21	Education	6,697	9,947	12,520	Increased number of Schools.
22	Surveys	1,870	3,246	9,236	*See* Head 23 for 1906. Real increase £699 on personal emoluments and for new map.
22a	Mineral Survey	—	—	1,969	Casual.
23	Lands	3,515	4,291	Included in 22.	*See* note against Head 22—"Surveys."
	Carried forward	478,366	519,570	573,442	

Item.	Head of Expenditure.	1904.	1905.	1906.	Remarks explanatory of Increase or Decrease.
		£	£	£	
	Brought forward	478,366	519,570	573,442	
24	Laboratory	682	658	636	Casual.
25	Rent	998	966	1,013	Casual.
26	Charitable	303	416	325	Casual.
27	Transport	25 514	31,583	35,167	Increase in expenditure on "Passages of Officers, &c." for increased Staff and in general carriers for opening up country.
28	Contribution to Northern Nigeria...	57,500	78,750	75,000	Determined by Secretary of State.
29	Miscellaneous Services	38,380	47,206	48,627	Increased expenditure on Expeditionary Works, Telegrams, &c.
30	Public Works Department	25,755	30,000	34,845	Increased establishment. *See* also note against Head 19 "Sanitary."
31	Roads Construction	—	—	1,903	New Head on development of policy of general road improvement.
32	Works and Buildings Annually Recurrent.	29,518	35,521	51,217	Increase in standard stocks of materials and stores.
33	Roads and Bridges Annually Recurrent.	—	818	1,397	More roads to be maintained. *See* Head 31.
34	Railway	—	—	59,181	Casual.
35	Tramway	53,795	60,417	1,539	Casual.
36	Carter and Denton Bridges... ...	—	—	689	Casual.
37	Works and Buildings Extraordinary	153,106	153,878	123,102	Less works undertaken.
38	Roads and Bridges Extraordinary...	—	2,874	15,899	New roads and bridges on development of policy of general road improvement.
39	Telegraphs Extraordinary	—	17,894	11,204	Less works undertaken on partial completion of telegraph communication.
40	Marine Extraordinary	—	18,011	21,104	New Craft.
	Totals	863,917	998,564	1,056,290	

EXPENDITURE—(2) From Loan Funds.

11. The amount of expenditure incurred during the year and chargeable to loan funds totalled £262,343, all of which was on account of railway extension. This amount increased the total sum expended by the Colony and Protectorate on railway construction, to the 31st December, 1906, to £1,677,756, out of a total loan raised of £2,000,000 (which realized £1,889,252), leaving a balance of £211,495 available for future expenditure.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

12. In the following statement the financial position of the Colony and Protectorate is set out in detail. It will be seen that on the 31st December, 1906, the assets exceeded the liabilities by the sum of £475,497, which is £32,427 more than on the corresponding day of the previous year, when the excess assets stood at £443,070. The improved financial position over 1905 of £32,427 represents the excess revenue over expenditure for the year 1906, as shown in the following balance sheet:—

Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities on 31st December, 1906.

Liabilities.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Assets.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deposits due by the Colony and Protectorate :—							Balances of the undermentioned Accounts :—						
Western Province—							Local Cash Account—						
Savings Bank	28,015	8	8				Treasury Chests, Western Province	31,952	4	7			
Bank of British West Africa ...	10,000	0	0				Do. with Bank of British West Africa.	33,613	4	5			
Railway	5,766	6	2				Treasury Chests, Central Province	12,453	11	6			
Miscellaneous	28,063	19	4				Treasury Chests, Eastern Province.	30,779	13	2			
Central Province—Miscellaneous ...	17,693	9	10					108,798	13	8			
Eastern Province—Miscellaneous ...	39,229	8	0				Crown Agents Cash Account ...	15,772	8	5			
				128,768	12	0					124,571	2	1
Drafts and Remittances :—							Advances due to the Colony and Protectorate :—						
Western Province	886	16	4				Western Province—Railway, Open Lines.	3,464	11	8			
Eastern Province	3	2	3				Ibadan—Oshogbo Extension Accounts.	36,257	14	4			
				889	18	7	Oshogbo—Ilorin Survey ...	4,509	15	11			
Loan Account—Unexpended Balance				211,495	8	7	Ilorin—Jebba Survey	1,660	14	9			
Sinking and Depreciation Funds :—							Zungeru Survey	23	4	10			
Coin Repatriation Fund	679	12	5				Dredger, Lagos Bar	22	14	6			
Yacht "Ivy" Depreciation Fund ...	19,995	1	1				Eastern Mole	2	0	0			
				20,674	13	6		45,940	16	0			

				Miscellaneous		28,190 15 6		
				Central Province—Miscellaneous...		8,205 4 6		
				Eastern Province—Miscellaneous...		14,860 18 10		
							97,197 14 10	
				Remittances to Crown Agents :—				
				(Eastern and Central Provinces) in transit and uncollected.		24,795 3 7		
				Remittances between Chests :—				
				In transit (Eastern and Central Provinces) ...	£3,950 12 5			
				In transit (Western Province).	6,552 7 10	10,503 0 3		
							35,298 3 10	
				Investments :—				
				Surplus Funds		122,248 16 11		
				Loan Funds (advanced to Crown Agents and on Deposit).		404,985 3 0		
						527,233 19 11		
				Bank of British West Africa ...		10,000 0 0		
				Savings Bank		22,350 0 0		
				Coin Repatriation Fund		679 12 5		
Total Liabilities		361,828 12 8		Yacht "Ivy" Depreciation Fund ...		19,995 1 1		
Excess of Assets over Liabilities		475,497 1 6					580,258 13 5	
Total		837,325 14 2		Total Assets			837,325 14 2	

NOTE.—Total liability on loans issued £2,000,000 (which realised £1,889,251 15*s.* 8*d.*), of which £211,495 8*s.* 7*d.* was unspent on 31st December, 1906.

A Statement showing description and amount of appropriated Funds invested on the 31st December, 1906, and not included in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities of the Protectorate on the same date.

Description of Investment.	Amount of Stock.	Actual Price.	Market value on 31st December, 1906.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Police Officers' Guarantee Fund.	3,275 11 0	3,200 0 0	3,185 11 0
Total	3,275 11 0	3,200 0 0	3,185 11 0

Loans.

13. The total indebtedness of the Colony and Protectorate on the 31st December, 1906, on account of the loans issued was £2,000,000, which is not taken into account in the statement of assets and liabilities as shown in the previous paragraph. This loan realized £1,889,252, which was available, and has been mostly expended, for railway construction and bridges in connection therewith.

Considerable further expenditure has been authorized in 1907 on railway extension and other works.

Progress.

14. The comparison of the actual results for the year 1906 has so far only been made with the figures for the year 1905. If the comparison is extended and a retrospect taken for the past ten years the rapid development of the revenue of Southern Nigeria becomes still more marked, and exhibits a period of uninterrupted prosperity and advancement. Diagram 1, Appendix A, shows the actual revenue and expenditure since 1896, from which it will be seen that the revenue has more than trebled itself in the past seven years.

CURRENCY AND BANKING.

15. British coins are the legal tender, and circulate freely throughout the Western Province and in the older established portions of the Eastern and Central Provinces—the smaller silver coins being especially in demand. In the territories more recently brought under effective control in the Eastern and Central Provinces British coins are still looked upon with suspicion, and the currency remains in a transition stage. The question of a uniform subsidiary currency for Northern and Southern Nigeria has recently been under consideration,

and a coinage of nickel bronze pennies and aluminium one-tenths of a penny has been approved as being suitable to local requirements, and will shortly be put into circulation.

16. Brass rods, wires, manillas, and cowries are used as currency by the natives, and are accepted as legal tender in those parts of the country in which they have in the past been current. The exchange is regulated by law, and, further importations having been prohibited, they will as a medium of exchange in time be ousted by the new subsidiary coinage.

17. The Bank of British West Africa, with a capital of £250,000, has for some years been established in Lagos, the headquarters of the Western Province, and transacts the banking business of the Government; but adequate banking facilities are still absent in the other Provinces of the Colony and Protectorate. It is obvious that in this large revenue-producing Colony banking facilities at the headquarters of the Eastern and Central Provinces, having a joint revenue of £660,000, are urgently required.

Legislation affecting Revenue and Trade.

18. On 1st January, 1906, the use of Tralles' Alcoholometer was substituted for that of Sykes' Hydrometer in ascertaining the strength of spirits—a strength of fifty degrees Tralles being considered as equivalent to a strength of 12½ degrees under-proof Sykes, and other strengths in proportion. The duty was fixed at 3*s.* 6*d.* for every imperial gallon imported not exceeding a strength of 50 degrees Tralles, and for stronger spirits an additional duty of $\frac{7}{8}d.$ for each degree of strength on each gallon was charged.

19. By Order No. 5 of 1906, made under the Customs Ordinance, 1894, the rates of rent charged in Lagos on goods in the King's Warehouse were applied to Calabar and Forcados.

20. By Ordinance No. 16 of 1906 the Customs Tariff Ordinance was amended, and a duty of 4*s.* for every imperial gallon substituted for the duty of 3*s.* 6*d.*, and an additional duty of 1*d.* in place of the additional $\frac{7}{8}d.$ This Ordinance did not, however, come into force until the 22nd December last.

21. The Niger Navigation Order in Council, 1903, was amended by the addition of a regulation providing that steam vessels on the Niger should slow down when approaching canoes to avoid accident and possible loss of life.

22. In September the Spirit Receptacle Ordinance, regulating the vessels and receptacles in which spirits may be imported, was passed. The Ordinance came into operation on 1st March. The size and weight of the receptacles and the quantity of spirit which they are to contain have been prescribed.

23. Proclamation No. 6 of 1906, which came into operation on the 1st April, provides for the collection of buoyage dues by the Customs officers at the following ports, unless the ship is specially exempted:—

Calabar, Opobo, Bonny, Brass, Akassa, and Forcados.

The dues are intended to cover the cost of the upkeep of buoys in the rivers.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

General Trade.

24. The following table shows the total value of trade and the revenue derived from customs duties for the year under report compared with the previous year:—

Province.	Customs Stations.	Imports.				Exports.				Total Trade.		Duty.			
		1905.		1906.		1905.		1906.				Import		Export.	
		Commercial and Government.	Specie.	Commercial and Government.	Specie.	Commercial and Government.	Specie.	Commercial and Government.	Specie.	1905.	1906.	1905.	1906.	1905.	1906.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Western or Lagos.	Lagos	1,036,788	68,695	1,221,233	166,819	843,877	175,917	1,026,045	200,328	2,125,277	2,614,423	263,283	281,377	—	—
Central ..	Forcados and Onitsha	406,748	136,860	389,806	105,860	419,507	—	442,933	200	963,115	938,739	100,048	82,818	—	—
	Warri	142,160	2,238	181,639	383	150,802	—	195,407	—	295,200	377,409	44,599	56,594	—	—
	Sapele	—	—	71,999	3,219	—	—	89,264	—	313,812	164,482	—	28,247	—	—
	Benin (Koko Town)..	136,821	8,379	47,243	950	168,612	—	109,076	—	—	157,269	45,501	19,537	6,402	—
		685,729	147,477	690,687	110,332	738,921	—	836,680	200	1,572,127	1,637,899	190,148	187,196	6,402	—
Eastern ..	Calabar and Obokum	358,472	21,442	384,788	8,386	313,139	1,450	358,797	—	694,812	751,971	106,199	140,363	—	—
	Ikang	6,728	—	9,177	50	3,143	—	6,653	—	9,871	15,880	2,313	3,343	—	—
	Opobo and Egwanga	262,409	19,482	309,709	11,610	350,700	—	411,222	—	632,591	732,541	115,657	156,857	5	—
	Bonny and Bakana..	100,219	3,351	85,773	1,522	101,208	650	100,676	500	205,428	188,471	39,221	36,939	—	—
	Degema and Buguma	89,273	5,766	86,105	1,732	136,792	—	141,890	—	231,831	229,737	44,038	48,217	—	—
	Brass	31,807	400	31,906	500	53,215	—	54,560	—	85,422	86,966	21,505	22,744	—	—
	Akassa	20,981	—	27,939	—	11,415	—	13,828	—	32,396	41,767	10,764	8,548	—	—
		869,289	50,441	935,397	23,800	969,912	2,109	1,087,666	500	1,892,351	2,047,363	339,697	417,011	5	—
	Grand Total ..	2,592,406	266,613	2,847,317	300,951	2,552,710	178,026	2,950,391	201,026	5,589,755	6,299,685	793,128	885,584	6,407	—

N.B.—The Government importations for Northern Nigeria are included in these accounts.

25. The total trade compared with 1905 shows an increase in volume of £709,930, made up as follows:—

	£	£
Imports.		
Commercial	254,911	
Specie	34,338	
		289,249
Exports.		
Commercial	397,681	
Specie	23,000	
		420,681
		£709,930

26. The increase in trade is attributed to the following causes:—

(*a*) The fact that the year has been favourable for the cultivated products and that increased attention has been paid to agriculture throughout the country;

(*b*) The high prices prevailing in Europe and in the local markets, which have caused an increase in imports and in the value of exports;

(*c*) The more settled state of the Protectorate during the year; and

(*d*) The increased facilities given to trade and the expansion of European influence.

27. The cultivated products exported consisted chiefly of cocoa, coffee, cotton, maize, and ground-nuts. The following table shows the value of the exports of these products for 1906, compared with the two previous years:—

—	1906.	1905.	1904.
	£	£	£
Eastern and Central Provinces ...	31,904	13,281	12,783
Western Province...	98,295	63,790	43,607
Total	130,199	77,071	56,390

28. The prices realized for palm products were higher than they have been since the early nineties, but there is some reason to doubt whether these high prices will be maintained.

29. In spite of the large exports from the Gold Coast, cocoa exported from Lagos fetched prices ranging from 56*s*. to 65*s*.

per cwt., in November and December, whereas at the same time in 1905 the prices ranged from 36*s.* to 40*s.* per cwt.

30. The Protectorate was in a more settled state during the year 1906 than it has been for the last three or four years, the Agbor rising, the most important disturbance of the year, having very little, if any, effect on the trade of the country.

31. There is an increase in trade in every Province. The following figures show the increases which have taken place compared with the year 1905:—

	£
Western Province	489,146
Central Province	65,772
Eastern Province	155,012

32. The general reasons for the increased trade of the year have already been stated. So far as Lagos is concerned those reasons are specially applicable. In addition, the large importations of building material, machinery, and railway material, the supplies for the headquarters station, and the fact that the value of packages, freight, and charges on goods were not included in the figures for 1905, have made the increase for 1906 nearly three quarters of a million sterling.

IMPORTS.

33. The quantity and value of the principal articles of import for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1906, compared with the result of the previous year are shown in Appendix B (I.).* (The Porto Novo imports are not included in these figures.

34. The following statement shows the total value of imports into Southern Nigeria, and the value of the imports from the various countries with which trade is carried on for the last three years, exclusive of specie, and the increase or decrease during the year under report compared with the two previous years:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Germany.	Holland.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£
1906	2,847,000	2,153,000	304,000	271,000	119,000
1905	2,592,000	1,991,000	309,000	177,000	115,000
1904	2,371 000	1,795,000	317,000	163,000	96,000
1905	+255,000	+162,000	− 5,000	+ 94,000	+ 4,000
1904	+476,000	+358,000	− 13,000	+109,000	+ 23,000

35. The trade returns show that there has been an increase of nearly half a million in the value of imports in two years,

* Not printed.

and although for the first nine months of 1904 the transit trade of Porto Novo was erroneously included in the trade figures of the Colony of Lagos without any distinction being made from the ordinary importations, still the inclusion of those figures is counterbalanced by the exclusion of packages and other charges on imported goods from the value of such goods.

36. The following statement shows the distribution of the import trade for the last three years:—

Year.	United Kingdom.	Germany.	Holland.	Other Countries.
	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
1906	75·62	10·65	9·55	4·18
1905	76·58	12·11	6·87	4·44
1904	75·71	13·37	6·87	4·05
Average ...	75·97	12·04	7·76	4·23

Decreases in Imports.

37. Decreases have taken place in the value and quantity of the following articles compared with the previous year's importations:—

(i) *Aerated Waters.*

This article shows a decrease in the number of dozen bottles imported of 9,397, valued at £1,640, which is due to the use of locally-made in place of imported aerated waters.

(ii) *Beads.*

A large decrease in the importation of beads, amounting to £10,000, appears in the Western Province returns, but the fact that coral beads, which are entirely imported through Parcel Post, are included in the importations by Parcel Post, whereas in 1905 they were classified as beads, accounts for £4,000. Stoppage in the Northern Nigeria trade it is said accounts for some portion of the decrease, and large stocks were on hand at the beginning of the year. It is noticed that Germany supplies the demand for this article to a very great extent

(iii) *Cotton Goods.*

The falling off in the importation of cotton goods amounts to £31,500. The decrease is made up as follows:—

	£
Lagos	7,200
Eastern and Central Provinces ...	24,300
Total ...	£31,500

The following statement shows the value of the cotton goods imported during the last three years:—

—	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£
Lagos	367,000	424,000	417,000
Eastern and Central Provinces ...	357,000	369,000	344,000
Total	724,000	793,000	761,000

(iv) *Earthenware and Glassware.*

Attention is directed to the comparatively large decreases compared with 1905, which have taken place in the importation of these articles. One reasonably expects an increase in such articles in a year when trade is so favourable. The decrease is most marked in the Western Province. The following statement gives the figures for the three years:—

Article.	Province.	1906.	1905.	1904.
		£	£	£
Earthenware ...	Lagos	7,800	9,000	7,500
	Eastern and Central...	7,700	7,800	8,700
Glassware ...	Lagos	1,400	2,600	2,500
	Eastern and Central...	2,100	2,600	1,900

(v) *Hardware and Machinery.*

This item shows a slight decrease of £3,000, attributed to smaller importations by the British Cotton Growing Association and the Government during 1906.

(vi) *Dane Guns and Gunpowder.*

There are large decreases in the importations of Dane guns and gunpowder. The following statement shows the importations into Lagos and the Eastern and Central Provinces in 1905 and 1906.

The importation of these articles has been affected by the large importations in previous years in anticipation of an increased duty. The natives would not buy at the increased price on the duty being raised; and large stocks consequently remained on hand.

Article.	Province.	1906.		1905.		Decrease.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			£		£		£
Dane Guns .. No	Lagos ..	3,676	1,299	15,745	5,717	12,069	4,418
	Eastern and Central.	10,390	3,614	14,578	5,290	4,188	1,476
Gunpowder .. lbs.	Lagos ..	218,162	3,346	225,886	2,951	7,724	395
	Eastern and Central.	563,053	7,699	1,036,928	13,588	473,875	5,889

Increases in Imports.

38. There have been increases in most of the principal commodities imported owing to the good year for trade throughout the country; particular attention is directed to the imports of kola nuts, kerosene, and matches. The following heads require some further explanation:—

(i) *Silk Goods.*

There has been an increase in the value of silk goods imported amounting to £28,500. The Lagos imports show an increase of £29,000. There has been a decrease therefore in the importations of the Eastern and Central Provinces of £500. It is thought that the importation of silks into Lagos has not actually increased to the extent indicated by the figures, for it would mean that such importations have been almost quadrupled in the last year.

(ii) *Wearing Apparel.*

Although the combined Provinces show a total increase of £3,700 under this head, there is a falling off in the Eastern and Central Provinces of £2,900, as the Lagos imports show an increase of £6,600. This is a partial explanation of the decrease in cotton goods.

(iii) *Spirits.*

In spite of the increased duty of 3*s*. 6*d*. a gallon which was in force throughout the year up to the 22nd December, when a further increase to 4*s*. a gallon took place, there has been a large increase in the importation of this commodity. The low importations of the year before, the increased area of supply, and the low prices at which the spirit is sold in some districts of the Protectorate, in addition to the larger prices paid for produce in a good trade year, account for this increase. The native chiefs will probably store a large portion of this spirit, which represents their wealth in some parts of the Protectorate, and which will be bartered for produce, cloth, &c., in the native markets.

In Lagos the spirit importations show a very slight increase.

In the Eastern Province, on the other hand, there has been a comparatively large increase caused by the low price ruling in spirits at Egwanga, the great tobacco and spirit importing port, on account of the competition which has been going on during the past year. Some of the increase is also attributable to the greater area to be supplied. It is to be noted that although the Government raise the bulk of the revenue from the duty on spirits, the consumption is considerably below 1 gallon per head of the population, and drunkenness among the natives is very rare.

(iv) *Tobacco Unmanufactured.*

The following statement shows the importations of unmanufactured tobacco for three years:—

Province.	1906.		1905.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
Lagos ...	896,875	17,129	1,054,091	21,278	1,034,892	21,048
Eastern and Central.	5,059,323	89,992	3,225,929	69,509	3,826,566	85,352
Total ...	5,956,198	107,121	4,280,020	90,787	4,861,458	106,400

This enormous increase in tobacco in the Eastern and Central Provinces is caused by the large importations at Egwanga due to the small supplies of the previous year, and the abnormally large prices for produce which have prevailed during the year both on account of the good European market and on account of the competition in the Eastern Province. The decrease in tobacco in Lagos is due probably to the difficulty in obtaining supplies and is not important.

(v) *Vehicles.*

Attention is specially directed to the large increase under this head, which includes carts, bicycles, &c. The number of vehicles imported has almost doubled itself in the last year. The figures are:—

—	1906.		1905.		Increase.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£		£		£
Lagos	—	4,435	—	1,646	—	2,789
Eastern and Central.	1,187	4,313	640	3,352	547	961

39. The amount of £527,000 for Other Articles requires some explanation. To facilitate the preparation of entries and invoices merchants are allowed to show the packages, freight, and charges at the end of the entry instead of showing the freight, &c., for each article; a record is kept of these amounts,

which form the largest item that goes to make up this amount. The principal items are:—

	£
Packages, freight, &c.	307,000
Railway material	80,000
Uniforms, &c.	19,000
Parcel Post	13,000
Cordage, &c.	11,000
Cartridges loaded	9,000
Arms, &c.	5,000
Lead	5,000
Canvas, &c.	4,000
Miscellaneous articles	74,000
	£527,000

The large increase compared with 1905 is due to the fact that in Lagos no account was kept in that year of the amount charged for packages, freight, &c.

40. The specie importations during the year have been very large owing to the increased trade of the country and the consequent demand for specie.

Exports.

41. The following statement shows the total value of exports from the Colony and Protectorate and the various countries to which they were shipped for the last three years, exclusive of specie, and the increase or decrease in 1906, compared with the previous years:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Germany.	France.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£
1906	2,950,000	1,677,000	1,158,000	36,000	79,000
1905	2,552,000	1,368,000	1,041,000	34,000	108,000
1904	2,635,000	1,408,000	1,091,000	66,000	70,000
1905	+398,000	+309,000	+117,000	+ 2,000	— 29,000
1904	+315,000	+269,000	+ 67,000	— 30,000	+ 9,000

The United Kingdom has taken 56·85 per cent. of the export trade, Germany 39·25 per cent., France 1·22 per cent., and other countries 2·68 per cent. In Lagos Province Germany took 62·17 per cent. of the trade, as almost the entire palm kernel trade is in the hands of the German firms, and the

United Kingdom took 30·12 per cent. In 1905 the United Kingdom took 53·6 per cent. of the export trade, and Germany 40·79 per cent., but in the Lagos Province Germany took 60·07 per cent. of the exports in 1905 and the United Kingdom 31·04 per cent. So that in 1906 compared with 1905 exports to the United Kingdom have increased 3·25 per cent., while those to Germany have decreased 1·54 per cent.; but in Lagos the exports to the United Kingdom have fallen off ·92 per cent., while those to Germany have increased 2·1 per cent. The increase in the Lagos exports to Germany in 1906 is due to the fact that Messrs. Witt and Büsch extended their business to Ilesha during the early part of the year and captured the rubber trade of that neighbourhood, which considerably increased the exports of rubber to Germany. It is noticed also that Germany has secured the greater part of the increased cocoa and maize exports.

Decreases in Exports.

42. The decreases which have taken place during the year are small and not very important. The following table shows the value and quantity for three years of the principal products in which decreases in exportation have taken place in 1906 compared with 1905:—

Product.	Province.	1906.		1905.		1904.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			£		£		£
Coffee .. .. lbs.	Lagos ..	14,550	493	81,301	1,229	11,220	136
	Eastern and Central.	54,322	694	7,066	65	41,673	301
Copra .. .. „	Lagos ..	49,280	265	142,744	610	61	626
	Eastern and Central.	11,644	54	3,159	13	17,362	73
Fibre .. packages	Lagos ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Eastern and Central.	5,414	3,210	7,290	4,052	5,781	3,678
Ivory .. .. lbs.	Lagos ..	3,977	805	4,871	1,069	4,986	928
	Eastern and Central.	7,917	1,763	7,363	2,262	11,763	3,469
Shea Products tons	Lagos ..	231	4,353	223	4,914	127	3,285
	Eastern and Central.	1,496	14,564	1,561	17,270	1,284	22,390

(i) *Coffee.*

While there has been a considerable decrease in the quantity of coffee exported from Lagos, the output from the Central and Eastern Provinces is considerably larger than it has been for years. A considerable increase is noticeable in the Central Province.

(ii) *Copra.*

The production of copra is confined to the Western Province and practically to the Roman Catholic Mission at Topo. The decrease is due to the fact that large sales of cocoanuts to the French Government at Konakry were made during the year, and the usual amount of copra was not produced.

(iii) *Fibre.*

The production of fibre is confined to the Eket District in the Eastern Province. It is shipped in packages of about 1 cwt. each. There has been a considerable falling off this year compared with the last two years.

(iv) *Shea Products.*

The Lagos exports again show an increase, although the railway return shows a decrease of 39 tons in the quantity carried. Practically the whole of the Central Province exports goes to the Continent of Europe, and of the Lagos exports only six tons went to the United Kingdom. There are no exports from the Eastern Province.

Increases in Exports.

43. The year, although exceptionally good for produce, is not so good in some respects as 1904, one of the best palm oil and kernel years on record, both in Lagos and the Eastern and Central Provinces. So far, however, as cultivated produce is concerned, except in the case of coffee, the year is the best on record.

(i) *Palm Products.*

The following statement shows the quantity of palm oil and palm kernels exported during the last three years:—

Product.	Province.	1906.	1905.	1904.
Palm Oil ... Galls.	Lagos...	3,081,256	2,765,909	3,196,142
	Eastern and Central	12,951,315	11,391,476	13,028,733
Palm Kernels ... Tons.	Lagos	48,337	45,176	59,318
	Eastern and Central	65,010	63,646	70,500

The above statement does not include exports from Porto Novo, but as it was customary to include these exports up to August, 1904, in the Lagos exports, it is likely that some Porto Novo produce was included in the amount shown as exported from Lagos during that year. It is unquestionable, however, that the year 1904 was an exceptionally good produce year, especially as regards kernels.

(ii) *Cotton.*

Cotton is the most important of all the cultivated products, and on the proper establishment of an industry of this kind the future development of this portion of the Empire is largely dependent, as it is an industry which can give permanent employment to the people, and be a constant and reliable source of wealth. As cotton has been grown for some time by the natives in the hinterland of this country for their own use, it is very likely that they understand to some extent the method of cultivation. No doubt a great deal can be done to develop the industry by the erection of large ginneries in the important centres, by the distribution of seed proved by experiment to be suitable for local growth in the neighbourhood of these centres, and by improving the means of communication around these centres. Some considerable time must necessarily elapse before large cotton plantations can be started, because it will be some time before the best method of growing cotton in West Africa is properly understood, and because the native prefers to carry on a small farm of his own rather than work under another's supervision for a certain number of hours each day or at a fixed task; so that at present a constant and sufficiently large supply of labour trained in cotton-growing is not available. Up to the present the cotton industry has made more progress in Southern Nigeria than in other parts of West Africa. Ginneries have been erected at Aro, and others are being erected at Oyo, Iwo, Lafenwa, and Eruwa Road. The following statement shows the exportations of cotton produce in 1906, compared with 1905:—

Cotton.

Province.	Customs Station.	1906.				1905.				Increase + or Decrease —			
		No. of Bales.	Weight in lbs.	Average weight of Bales in lbs.	Value.	No. of Bales.	Weight in lbs.	Average weight of Bales in lbs.	Value.	No. of Bales.	Weight in lbs.	Average weight of Bales in lbs.	Value.
					£				£				£
Western or Lagos ...	Lagos	6,038	2,294,629	380	30,715	2,775	1,054,569	380	15,591	+ 3,263	+ 1,240,060	—	+ 15,124
Central or Niger ...	Forcados	2,046	368,298	180	10,087	11	1,896	180	20	+ 2,035	+ 366,402	—	+ 10,067
	Onitsha Warri ...	183	32,921	—	760	524	94,400	—	225	− 341	− 61,479	—	+ 535
	Sapele	—	75	—	1	—	10	—	—	—	+ 65	—	+ 1
	Benin (Koko Town)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2,229	401,294	—	10,848	535	96,306	—	245	+ 1,694	+ 304,988	—	+ 10,603
Eastern or Calabar	No export	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grand Total ...	... ...	8,267	2,695,923	—	41,563	3,310	1,150,875	—	15,836	+ 4,957	+ 1,545,048	—	+ 25,727

N.B.—(1) Exportation of Cotton, raw, from Northern Nigeria—January to December, 1906 included in Forcados.

No. of Bales.	Weights in lbs.	Average weight.	Value.
1,914	344,438	180	£9,566

(2) Bales from Western Province average about 380 lbs.
Bales from Central Province average about 180 lbs.

Cotton Seed.

Province.	Customs Station.	1906.				1905.				Increase or Decrease.			
		No. of Bags.	Weight in lbs.	Average weight of Bags in lbs.	Value.	No. of Bags.	Weight in lbs.	Average weight of Bags in lbs.	Value.	No. of Bags.	Weight in lbs.	Average weight of Bags in lbs.	Value.
					£				£				£
Western or Lagos...	Lagos	57,737	6,466,513	112	8,808	14,348	1,605,997	112	3,577	43,389	4,860,516	—	5,231
	Forcados and Onitsha.	5,614	449,101	80	727	—	—	—	—	5,614	449,101	—	727
Central or Niger ...	Warri	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Sapele	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Benin (Koko Town)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		5,614	449,101	—	727	—	—	—	—	5,614	449,101	—	727
Eastern or Calabar	(No export)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grand Total	... ...	63,351	6,915,614	—	9,535	14,348	1,605,997	—	3,577	49,003	5,309,617	—	5,958

N.B.—(1) Exportation of cotton seed from Northern Nigeria, January-December, 1906 included in Forcados :—

No. of Bags.	Weight in lbs.	Average weight.	Value.
5,614	449,101	80	£72

(2) Bags from Western Province, average weight about 112 lbs.
Bags from Central Province, average weight about 80 lbs.

(iii) *Rubber.*

Eastern and Central Provinces.

Year.	Total Quantity.	Total Value.	United Kingdom.		Germany.		Other Countries.	
			Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
1891—1892	373,839	15,537	373,839	15,537	—	—	—	—
1892—1893	332,433	17,610	332,433	17,610	—	—	—	—
1893—1894	540,772	27,782	540,772	27,782	—	—	—	—
1894—1895	—	13,282	—	13,282	—	—	—	—
1895—1896	308,309	11,787	307,039	11,736	1,270	51	—	—
1896—1897	386,131	17,442	347,936	15,101	—	—	38,195	2,340
1897—1898	592,309	32,960	537,625	28,837	—	—	64,684	4,122
1898—1899	874,298	60,808	783,424	53,013	—	—	90,874	7,595
1899—1900	1,450,567	105,117	1,293,418	93,374	154,956	11,564	2,193	178
1900	2,251,315	137,289	2,144,827	128,440	106,488	8,849	—	—
1901	1,740,156	106,925	1,718,522	105,818	21,358	1,094	276	13
1902	865,834	46,946	830,674	45,602	35,160	1,344	—	—
1903	1,177,803	61,816	1,144,404	60,611	33,399	1,204	—	—
1904	2,408,926	158,991	2,370,694	156,666	34,284	2,135	3,948	190
1905	2,842,831	226,387	2,752,216	223,793	84,510	2,098	6,105	496
1906	2,506,652	215,817	2,443,099	210,482	62,352	5,235	1,200	100

Western (Lagos) Province.

Year.	Total Quantity.	Total Value.	United Kingdom.		Germany.		Other Countries.	
			Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
1892	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1893	56	3	—	—	56	3	—	—
1894	5,867	324	5,723	319	144	5	—	—
1895	5,069,576	269,893	3,200,123	166,344	1,380,280	80,000	489,173	23,549
1896	6,484,363	347,721	5,035,595	259,067	1,333,831	82,279	114,937	6,375
1897	4,458,327	283,185	4,000,419	246,889	457,908	36,296	—	—
1898	3,778,266	285,410	3,550,292	262,907	227,974	22,502	—	—
1899	1,993,525	160,315	1,830,816	144,224	162,689	16,089	20	2
1900	596,332	48,239	555,480	44,406	40,852	3,833	—	—
1901	194,280	14,749	187,103	14,269	7,177	480	—	—
1902	151,440	9,272	142,176	8,654	9,264	618	—	—
1903	129,311	15,583	118,255	14,465	13,056	1,118	—	—
1904	266,458	22,961	244,379	21,843	21,079	1,118	—	—
1905	258,560	22 656	235,424	19,796	31,136	2,860	—	—
1906	927,627	91,260	619,044	63,907	30,858	27,353	—	—

The great proportion of rubber exported from Southern Nigeria is obtained in the Eastern and Central Provinces, principally from the *funtumia elastica*, which grows in the forests, and up to the present practically the whole of the rubber exported is forest produce, rudely prepared by the native with little or no intelligent control of the collection. The foregoing statements show the quantity of rubber exported from the Eastern and Central Provinces and Lagos from 1891-2 to 1906. There has been no systematic cultivation or preparation of the rubber, and the forest trees have been destroyed through want of knowledge and practically uncontrolled collection, except during the last four years, when a serious attempt has been made by the Forestry Department in the Eastern and Central Provinces to arrest the evil. In the hinterland of Lagos the efforts of the Forestry Department are restricted to advice, the rules relating to rubber under the Forestry Proclamation not being in force.

(iv) *Maize.*

This product is practically confined to the Western Province. The exports for the past three years are shown in the following statement:—

	Total.		United Kingdom.		Germany.		Other Countries.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
1904	4,689	16,115	3,510	11,785	155	485	1,034	3,845
1905	9,385	32,503	6,668	22,921	2,543	8,701	174	882
1906	13,053	37,386	7,792	21,980	5,027	14,764	234	642

(v) *Ground-Nuts.*

The exportation of this product appears at present in the Central Province returns only, and the trade is confined to the Niger. The following figures show the development which has taken place in the last four years:—

	cwt.	£
1903	9,363 ...	2,732
1904	15,144 ...	4,999
1905	15,805 ...	6,959
1906	33,216 ...	13,486

It is probable that this industry will show a considerable development when the railway is constructed to Jebba, as it is no doubt handicapped at present by the want of proper transport; possibly the abolition of tolls in Ilorin will attract a certain amount of this produce to Lagos without affecting the Niger exportations.

(vi) *Cocoa.*

There has been an enormous development in cocoa during the last year, confined chiefly to the Western Province. In the Eastern and Central Provinces there has been some further development; but there the farmers have not taken up agriculture to the same extent as in Lagos during the last few years, and the same amount of system and healthy competition does not exist. The following table shows the exports of cocoa from Lagos and the Eastern and Central Provinces for the last three years:—

Province.	1904.		1905.		1906.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
Lagos	821,732	13,892	896,350	10,889	1,153,439	20,893
Eastern and Central.	367,728	4,982	388,479	6,019	466,548	6,161

(vii) *Skins of all kinds.*

The trade in these skins is practically confined to the Western Province; the exports for the last three years from Lagos are:—

	£
1904	674
1905	1,530
1906	3,383

44. The other products exported and classified under "Other Articles" in the trade returns of the Colony are native provisions, native soap, sheep, goats, and horses exported to the Gold Coast and West African ports, Calabar beans, capsicums, camwood, native drugs, oil beans, "potash," poultry, wood oil, and other articles.

PORTO NOVO TRADE IN TRANSIT THROUGH LAGOS.

45. It would be incorrect to include this trade in the import and export trade of the Colony, because the goods are only conveyed through the inland waters and are never landed in Lagos at any private wharf. It is the rule that kerosene, gunpowder, and firearms should pay duty in all cases before importation is allowed, but on such commodities going through the inland waters to Porto Novo a drawback is granted of 95 per cent. of the duty; otherwise there is no charge, even on the boats that carry this trade. The development of this trade has been considerable. The follow-

ing statement shows the principal exports in 1906 compared with those for 1905:—

Article.	1906.	1905.	Remarks.
Cotton, Raw ... lbs.	84,915	—	Value of export trade £162,721.
„ Seed	66,080	29,120	
Maize ... ... Tons	4,207	40	
Palm Kernels ... „	10,844	10,950	
Palm Oil ... ... Galls.	171,011	12,400	
Rubber ... ... „	2,646	4,480	

In Lagos no detailed account was kept of the importations for Porto Novo; it is not possible, therefore, to furnish a comparative statement of the principal imports, but the value of British and foreign manufactures imported in 1905 amounted to £14,673 as against a total of £36,193 for 1906. The following table shows the principal imports for 1906:—

—	Total.		United Kingdom.		Germany.		Other Countries.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£		£
Cotton Goods .. packages	533	12,590	506	11,912	27	678	—	—
Matches .. .. gross	21,250	1,732	—	—	21,250	1,732	—	—
Salt .. .. .. tons	14,190	1,176	12,145	956	2,045	220	—	—
Silk Goods .. .. packages	43	840	42	797	1	43	—	—
Tobacco (manufactured). lbs.	66,369	1,571	46,455	1,118	19,914	453	—	—
Tobacco (Unmanufactured). „	371,388	9,398	210,288	5,557	161,100	3,841	—	—
Other Articles	—	8,886	—	5,592	—	3,104	—	190
Totals	—	36,193	—	25,932	—	10,071	—	190

Import Duties.

46. The increase in import duties received during the year as compared with the previous year amounted to £92,456, and the amount collected exceeded the estimate by £25,584.

The figures for the last three years are shown in the following table.

—	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£
Western Province... ...	253,861	263,283	281,377
Central Province	168,009	190,148	187,196
Eastern Province	344,875	339,697	417,011
Total	766,745	793,128	885,584

47. The increase in the Customs revenue collected is due to the greater quantity of gin, unmanufactured tobacco, and kerosene imported during the year 1906.

48. The following table shows the revenue derived from the principal revenue-producing articles, compared with the revenue derived from the same articles in 1905:—

Articles.	1905 (including Lagos.	1906.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Spirits*				
Brandy*	207	323		
Gin*	296,799	474,251		
Liqueurs*	239	523	91,742	—
Rum*	46,013	100,167		
Whisky*	4,088	4,230		
Unenumerated* ...	391	21,291		
Tobacco (Unmanufactured)	71,119	82,479	11,360	—
Gunpowder	31,555	19,083	—	12,472
Salt	27,877	26,963	—	914
Kerosene	7,736	8,823	1,087	—
Dane Guns	5,357	3,517	—	1,840
Cotton Goods	78,854	75,654	—	3,200
Hardware and Machinery ...	6,876	7,176	300	—
Provisions	7,030	6,918	--	112
Other Articles	47,681	54,187	6,506	—
£ 161,306 + 631,822 = £ 793,128		885,585	110,995	16,538

Nett increase £92,457.

* Duties on spirits for Lagos, 1905, not shown separately, but amounted to £161,306.

Shipping.

49. In Appendix A is shown the number and tonnage of the ships which have entered and cleared from the Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria during the year 1906. It is not possible to make any comparison owing to the amalgamation of Lagos Colony with Southern Nigeria Protectorate, as ships which call at Lagos also called in some cases at the river ports, and a combination of the statistics of the two places would give a most inaccurate result. The return is important in so far as it shows the growth of British and foreign shipping, and of the number and tonnage of the ships of each nationality. There is an apparent large increase in the number of foreign ships and a corresponding large decrease in the number of British ships if the return is compared with the 1905 return for the Eastern and Central Provinces. This is easily explained. In the 1905 return for the Eastern and Central Provinces, the branch boats from Lagos were included

in the shipping, so that there was a comparatively large addition to British shipping which is not included in 1906. Lagos is the port of call for all the German boats going to the south, and the German boats which go regularly to and from Porto Novo have also been included in these returns and are an addition to the returns for the Eastern and Central Provinces.

50. The following table shows the total value of trade carried in British and foreign ships during the last year:—

—	Southern Nigeria.		Porto Novo. (In transit.)	
	1906.		1906.	
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
	£	£	£	£
Entered	2,779,926	368,343	25,842	10,351
Cleared	2,400,401	751,017	40,654	123,409
Total	5,180,327	1,119,360	66,496	133,760

It is not possible to make any comparison with previous years, as a return of the value of the trade carried was not kept in the Western Provinces in the past. The following return showing the trade carried in British and foreign ships in the Central and Eastern Provinces during the last three years may be of some interest:—

—	British.			Foreign.		
	1904.	1905.	1906.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Entered ...	1,651,448	1,615,222	1,608,297	141,021	138,314	151,920
Cleared ...	1,509,190	1,497,537	1,688,609	209,527	213,404	236,438
Total ...	3,160,638	3,112,759	3,296,906	350,548	351,718	388,358

The returns show that so far as the Eastern and Central Provinces are concerned British shipping has taken a very fair proportion of the increased trade.

51. So far as the ocean steamship services are concerned there has been a marked improvement in the arrival of the mail steamers up to time, and the time tables of the steamship companies are more reliable than in the past. The boats are

required to adhere to the dates shown in the tables, and a faster and better class of ship is quickly replacing the old type.

52. A local fortnightly service was inaugurated at the end of the year between Lagos and the Gold Coast ports. This service relieves the main line boats of the intermediate cargo and deck passengers from those ports for Lagos, and very often prevents a day's delay of the large mail steamers at the Coast ports and the transhipment of the passengers and cargo at Lagos, which very frequently necessitated the branch steamer remaining for a night outside the bar at the entrance of the harbour.

III.—FORESTRY AND AGRICULTURE.*

Examination of Forests.

53. Some hitherto unexplored forests were visited during the year. In the Western Province this work was carried out by the Conservator of Forests in conjunction with the Provincial Forest Officer, and in addition to examining the Mamu and Oshun river reserves, a tour was made through the forests of the northern portions of the Jebu Ode and the central parts of the Ilesha districts.

54. In the Central Province the "swamp" forests between Forcados, Ramos, and Dodo Rivers were for the first time examined by a Forest Officer, who reports that the mahogany found in this part of the country is *Khaya Punchii*. Some fine belts of high evergreen forest are met with along the banks of the creeks wherever firm solid ground is to be found. The bulk of the vegetation, however, belongs to the mangrove swamp type.

55. The Provincial Forest Officer visited some unexplored country to the north of the Cross River, in the Eastern Province, as well as the better known portions of the Oban Hills.

Alteration of Reserved Area.

56. There have been no additions to the reserved areas except in the Central Province, where the Native Councils of the Warri, Sapele, Ifon, Agbor, and Benin City districts have passed laws reserving the forests along both banks of the rivers for a distance of 1,000 yards back on either side. This

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* A report on the Forest Administration of Southern Nigeria will be published separately in the series of Colonial Reports—Miscellaneous.

is an important move in the right direction, and not only ensures the protection and regulation of the water supply, but also reserves the most accessible and easily exploitable areas for the production of large timber.

The exploration of the forests mentioned above was undertaken with a view to selecting the best areas for future reservation. This, however, will take some time, and the hilly country to the north of the Cross River cannot be taken up till the country has been put under direct administrative control.

Forest Protection.

57. With the exception of the general protection against felling for purposes of farming given to some of the more important economic trees growing on areas leased out for timber exploitation, it may be said that the bulk of the forests of Southern Nigeria are still threatened with extermination at the hands of the native farmers. Their system of agriculture, as practised in the more wooded portions of the country, is one of the most wasteful known. Steps are taken to induce them to adopt improved methods, but progress in this direction is still slow.

58. Most of the reserves in the Western Province were more or less successfully protected during the year. Protection against fire was undertaken for a portion of the Oloke Meji Reserve, which is situated in the "dry zone."

Regeneration of Forests.

59. The method of farming adopted by the natives has given a favourable start in the struggle for existence to such plants only as are capable of easily reproducing themselves by means of coppice and stool shoots, and root suckers; and these unfortunately are in general not of economic importance. Natural regeneration by means of seeds is exceedingly difficult in the thick secondary growth that springs up on abandoned farms in the interval between two successive farming rotations.

Plantations.

60. The existing plantations in the reserves of the Central Province have been steadily augmented during the year, more especially as regards *Funtumia elastica*.

In the Mamu reserve, which contains a splendid plantation, eighteen compartments were cleared of undergrowth and blanks filled in with plants of that species, besides which twelve other compartments were made and fully planted up with rubber. Ten acres were also put down with Para rubber in the same reserve. Steady progress continues to be made also in the establishment of new plantations of *Funtumia elastica* all over the Central Province. During 1906 plantations, 369 in number, containing 167,135 plants, were made in

the Benin districts, and 134 plantations, containing 40,320 plants in the Niger region, as compared with a total of 119,800 and 31,832 plants, respectively, for the previous year.

61. Messrs. Alexander Miller Brother, who were the first to take up the cultivation of Para rubber in the Central Province, have purchased 30,000 more seeds with a view to increasing the size of the Sepele plantation. The latter is now in very fine condition, and the plants show excellent growth. The African Association made an attempt to start Para rubber plantations in the Central Province, but they do not seem to have pushed the matter further. A large number of seeds were sown at Benin City, whence the young plants will be distributed to the various district headquarters. The plants in the Forest Office compound are now from 12 to 15 feet high.

62. In the Eastern Province little has been done in the way of making plantations of rubber. A few of the European trading firms have small areas planted up with *Funtumia elastica* and *Ficus elastica*, but there has been no active interest taken in the matter by the natives, who as a rule appear to be fully engaged in the palm oil trade. Rubber trees have been planted in most of the district stations and along some of the main roads in Calabar.

A very good plantation of Para rubber has been made in the new extension of the Calabar Gardens. The plants have shown exceptionally fine growth.

63. The Provincial Forest Officer of the Central Province reports that rather over 35,000 seedlings of mahoganies (*Khaya*, *Pseudocedrela*, and *Entandrophragma*) were planted out by holders of timber leases, and that these have been largely supplemented by freeing from dominant growth suppressed seedlings growing naturally in the forests.

Exploitation of Major Forest Produce.

64. The number of mahogany logs exported from Southern Nigeria during 1906 was 20,274, valued *locally* at £68,718, as against 13,442 logs, valued at £49,557, in the previous year.

The increase is mainly due to the impetus given to the trade by the higher prices offered in the home markets. The bulk of the timber was furnished by West African "Mahoganies" belonging to the genera *Khaya*, *Pseudocedrela* and *Entandrophragma*, of the natural order *Meliaceæ*.

A few logs were also cut from a species of *Guarea* and realized fair prices in Europe.

65. Further efforts were made to place other kinds of West African woods on the European market, but with little success. There are, however, a large variety of woods now that have been favourably reported on by timber brokers and they afford ample scope for any new enterprise in this direction. The introduction of improved methods of hauling timber by means

of mechanical appliances and draught animals is still a desideratum.

Exploitation of Minor Forest Produce.

66. (*a*) *Rubber.*—The total output of rubber for 1906 (including exports from Northern Nigeria) amounted to 3,434,279 lbs., valued locally at £307,077, as compared with 3,109,707 lbs., valued at £249,043, in the previous year.

67. Experiments were made with a view to preparing rubber of a better quality with the ordinary appliances available to the natives, and it was found that with the exercise of a little care as regards straining the latex of impurities, washing the freshly coagulated latex, and cutting it up into thin strips that can be more easily dried in wood smoke, a product was obtained that was valued in England at prices ranging from 4*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 8*d.* a lb., when best Brazilian Para was selling at 5*s.* 2*d.* a lb. The latex experimented with was that of *Funtumia elastica*, and nothing but the most simple articles such as demijohns, earthen pots, a sieve, and a empty bottle or two, were used for preparing the rubber.

68. Demonstrations were given to the rangers, forester, forest guards, and pupils in such simple methods of preparing the improved produce, and it is hoped that the natives generally will adopt the system. There is not the slightest doubt that the price of our best rubbers such as that procured from *Funtumia elastica*, *Landolphia Owariensis*, and *Clitandra elastica* can be doubled by the exercise of a little care in the preparation of the produce. Such efforts, however, will not be successful unless a substantially higher price is paid to the natives for the superior article and the Adulteration of Produce Ordinance is simultaneously put into force. The two rangers, who were sent to French Guinea for the purpose of learning the methods employed there in preparing rubber, returned to Southern Nigeria towards the end of the year, and have since been employed in teaching the natives of the rubber yielding districts of the Protectorate what they have learnt.

69. (*b*) *Gums.*—The export of gum copal in 1906 was 34,634 lbs., valued at £6,650, as compared with 33,207 lbs., valued at £3,967, in the previous year. The plant that furnishes this product is a lofty tree of the moist evergreen forests and is known to botanists as *Cyanothyrsus Ogea*, (*Daniellia Oblonga* is a synonym). It is common in parts of the Western and Central Provinces.

The trade in "Balsam Copaiba" has fallen off very much of late years, probably on account of the reduced prices now paid for it at home. The tree that yields this product is *Daniellia thurifera*, a plant characteristic of the open forests of the "dry zone." It is extremely plentiful all over the hinterland.

No gum arabic is collected within the limits of Southern Nigeria.

70. (*c*) *Fibres.*—The trade in piassava fibre appears to have fallen off somewhat during 1906; the exports amounted to 5,414 packages, valued at £3,210, against 7,290 packages, valued at £4,052 in the previous year. In the Eket District where the bulk of the fibre is prepared, efforts are being made by some of the local agents of the European trading firms to encourage this industry as much as possible. Immense areas of swampy land in Southern Nigeria are occupied by the palms, *Raphia vinifera* and *Raphia Hookeri*, from which this fibre is procured.

71. There are other good fibre-yielding plants to be met with in the country, such as the tall shrub *Honckenya ficifolia*, the ubiquitous *Urena lobata* and the tree *Sterculia Barteri*, the best fibres of which are used by the natives for making strong durable ropes. It seems, however, to be a very difficult matter to get the natives to take up any industry, and very little headway is made unless a special organization is started to push the matter through.

72. (*d*) *Oil, Beans, and Seeds.*—A small trade was done in the seeds of the Dika nut tree, *Irvingia Barteri* and *Pentaclethra macrophylla*. Both these products are, however, used by the natives for food, and unless the prices offered at home improve, there will be but little inducement for them to start a regular industry in these seeds. The *Shea butter* tree *Bassia Parkii* (*Butyrospermum Parkii*—synonym), is very plentiful in some of the districts of the hinterland, more especially in the Western Province. Efforts are being made to interest the Yorubas in this trade, which is confined to regions in which the palm oil does not grow.

Agriculture.

73. *Experiments.*—The Provincial Forest Officer of the Western Province reports that a number of experimental crops were grown at Oloke Meji in addition to those in the ordinary routine of farm cultivation. The most important experiments were made with cotton, rice, and jute. Experiments were also made in the cultivation of tobacco, castor oil, bananas, and various leguminous crops.

74. Agriculture has lately made rapid strides in the Western Province, where the cultivation of cotton, maize, cocoa, and ground-nuts shows a very satisfactory increase for the year. The Yorubas as a race are keen agriculturists and quick, compared with other races of Southern Nigeria, to take advantage of any improvements in cultivation or recommendations brought to their notice.

75. There is ample scope for the extension of cocoa cultivation in the moist regions of the Central and Eastern Provinces.

where the climate is very favourable to the growth of that plant.

76. Ground-nuts should be more extensively cultivated than they are at present. This is a most useful crop to introduce into any system of crop rotation, more especially on the poor exposed soils of the interior, where the organic constituents are generally deficient.

77. An Agricultural Show held at Lagos towards the end of the year proved a great success. It was largely attended by natives from all parts of the Colony and Protectorate, and will no doubt give a great impetus to the interest taken in agriculture.

78. In the Western Province a large number of plants of economic importance were distributed during the year from the Oloke Meji Gardens to farmers and others interested in their cultivation. The totals amounted to 25,944 plants; 1,996 suckers; 629 lbs., 116 packets, and 1 box of seeds; 140 lbs. and 36 packets of tubers; and 38 bundles of grass.

The pupils attached to the Gardens have been put through a systematic course of instruction (which lasts for three years) in the propagation of plants, the essential conditions requisite for good growth, pruning, elementary botany, farming, and plantation work in the forests. They have been well reported on by the Curator. After the completion of this course the best pupils are generally given appointments in the more important native States and Districts.

79. The arboretum of wild indigenous plants has been increased and the plants properly labelled and identified, whilst the collection in the herbarium has been augmented by something like 200 specimens, which have been properly mounted and dried, duplicates being sent to Kew for identification.

80. A fair amount of plant distribution was done from the Onitsha Gardens and plantations in the Central Province. The locality, however, is not a good one for this purpose—it is too dry and far from the centres where the cultivation of crops such as cocoa, Para rubber, &c., can be successfully undertaken. The kitchen garden was well maintained and several kinds of European vegetables grown.

81. The stock farm at Onitsha was abandoned and the cattle either transferred to other districts or sold. Past experience has shown that this locality is too much infested by flies (*Glossina palpalis* and *Glossina fuscus*) for any success to be attained in the breeding of cattle.

82. The Botanical Gardens at Calabar, Eastern Province, were considerably extended in the direction of the new barracks and portions planted up with plants such as *Funtumia elastica*, *Ficus elastica*, *Castilloa*, and Para rubber. The latter have made excellent growth and average about 12 feet in height. Other plots of land were planted with fibre-yielding

plants such as Jute, *Honckenya ficifolia, Urena lobata*, and Ramie.

83. Considerable additions were made to the stock of tropical plants, more especially as regards fruit trees. The *Mangosteens, Lichis. Pomegranates*, &c., are doing well. The *Nipa* plantation across the river appears to be established, and the sago palms planted in the hollow in the Gardens are in excellent condition.

84. A stock farm was started at Calabar with a view to establishing a dairy. For this purpose three cows and some bull calves were imported from the Canary Islands. Unfortunately two of the former and one of the latter died during the year. The cause of death in the case of the cows was reported by the Medical Officer to be hypertrophic cirrhosis of the liver in the one case, and intestinal obstruction in the case of the calf.

The Medical Officer reported that the blood of the calf that died contained parasites similar to those found in the Indian disease (human) known as *Kala-azar*. In no case was trypanosomiasis infection detected.

Game Laws.

85. The number of elephant licences issued during 1906 in the Central Province was five, as compared with six in 1905. Some game reserves are being taken up, and it is to be hoped that a few areas at least will serve as sanctuaries for wild animals in the true sense of the word.

86. The only outcome of the present legislation on game preservation has been to limit the shooting of a few *bonâ fide* European sportsmen whilst the constant drain of animal life caused by literally tens of thousands of native hunters who shoot everything they see, night and day, in season and out of season, throughout the year remains unchecked.

Collection of Plants and Wild Products.

87. The importance of pushing on the Botanical Survey of Southern Nigeria has been kept in mind, and several collections of plants were made and forwarded to Kew for authoritative identification. The same has been done with wild products of economic importance, such as timber, oil seeds, fibres, edible fruit, &c.

IV.—LEGISLATION.

88. The chief legal event of the year has been the cancelling of the Letters Patent of 1886 constituting the Colony of Lagos and the revocation of the Orders in Council providing for the Administration of the Protectorates of Lagos and Southern

Nigeria, and the promulgation of Letters Patent and an Order in Council constituting the Colony of Southern Nigeria and providing for its Government, together with that of the Protectorate.

89. The Order in Council and the Letters Patent are dated the 16th February and the 28th February, respectively, but both came into operation on being proclaimed in the Colony on the 1st May. No change has as yet been made in the application of the laws, it being declared that all laws in force in any part of the territory prior to the commencement of the new system of government shall continue in force until further provision is made by the local legislature.

90. The legislation of the year has dealt with the registration of medical practitioners, the transfer of prisoners between the prisons of the Colony and Protectorate, the establishment of the Public Officers' Guarantee Fund, the regulation of the receptacles in which trade spirits may be imported, the naturalization of aliens, the expropriation of the Hausa Lines, and the survey of steamers carrying passengers, together with minor amendments of existing laws.

The following is a full list of all Ordinances, Proclamations, Orders, Rules, and Regulations made during the year:—

Ordinances.

1 of 1906. The Governor in Council Ordinance, 1906.
2 of 1906. The Trade Marks Amendment Ordinance, 1906.
3 of 1906. The Towns Police and Public Health Ordinance, 1906.
4 of 1906. The Sale of Palm Kernels Ordinance, 1906.
5 of 1906. The Registration of Medical Practitioners and Dentists Ordinance, 1906.
6 of 1906. The Transfer of Prisoners Ordinance, 1906.
7 of 1906. The Forestry Ordinance, 1906.
8 of 1906. The Travelling and Field Allowance Ordinance 1900 Repeal Ordinance, 1906.
9 of 1906. The Lights, Buoys, and Beacons Ordinance, 1906.
10 of 1906. The Trade Spirits (Regulation of Receptacles) Ordinance, 1906.
11 of 1906. The Naturalization of Aliens Ordinance, 1906.
12 of 1906. The Public Officers' Guarantee Fund Ordinance, 1906.
13 of 1906. The Hausa Lands Ordinance, 1906.
14 of 1906. The Passengers Steam Vessels Survey Ordinance, 1906.
15 of 1906. The Weights and Measures Ordinance, 1906.
16 of 1906. The Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1906.
17 of 1906. The Supreme Court Ordinance, 1906.
18 of 1906. The Pilotage and Harbour Ordinance, 1906.
19 of 1906. The Supply Ordinance, 1906.

Proclamations.

1 of 1906. The Customs Amendment Proclamation, 1906.
2 of 1906. The Customs Tariff Further Amendment Proclamation, 1906.
3 of 1906. The Public Officers' Guarantee Fund Amendment Proclamation, 1906.
4 of 1906. The Commissioners Proclamation, 1906.
5 of 1906. The Niger Lands Transfer Proclamation, 1906.
6 of 1906. The Crown Lands Management Proclamation, 1906.
7 of 1906. The Native Courts Proclamation, 1906.
8 of 1906. The Lights, Buoys, and Beacons Proclamation, 1906.
9 of 1906. The Spirit Licence Amendment Proclamation, 1906.
10 of 1906. The Marriage Proclamation, 1906.

Orders.

1 of 1906. Order made under "The Commissioners Proclamation, 1900."
2 of 1906. Order made under "The Native Currency Proclamation, 1902."
3 of 1906. Order made under "The Towns Regulation Proclamation, 1905."
4 of 1906. Order made under "The European Reservation Proclamation, 1902."
5 of 1906. Order made under "The Customs Ordinance, 1894."
6 of 1906. Order made under "The Supreme Court Proclamation, 1900."
7 of 1906. Order made under "The Prisons Proclamation, 1900."
8 of 1906. Order made under "The Lights, Buoys, and Beacons Proclamation, 1906."
9 of 1906. Order made under "The Native Courts Proclamations, 1901 and 1903."
10 of 1906. Order made under "The Police Proclamation, 1902."
11 of 1906. Order made under "The Commissioners Proclamation, 1900."
12 of 1906. Order in Legislative Council made under "The Petroleum Ordinance, 1889."
13 of 1906. Order in Executive Council made under "The Customs Ordinance, 1876."
14 of 1906. Order made under "The Registration of Medical Practitioners and Dentists Ordinance, 1906."
Order in Executive Council made under "The Supreme Court Ordinance, 1876."

Order in Executive Council made under "The Customs Ordinance, 1876."

Order in Executive Council made under "The Lights, Buoys, and Beacons Proclamation, 1900."

Order in Executive Council made under "The Diseases Exclusion Proclamation, 1904."

Order in Legislative Council made under "The Lights, Buoys, and Beacons Ordinance, 1890."

Order in Executive Council made under "The Customs Ordinance, 1876."

Rules and Regulations.

1 of 1906. Rules made under "The Post Office Amendment Proclamation, 1903."

2 of 1906. Rules made under "The Supreme Court Proclamation, 1900."

3 of 1906. Rules made under "The Forestry Proclamations, 1901 and 1905."

4 of 1906. Regulations under "The Northern Nigeria Registration of Imports and Exports Proclamation, 1906."

5 of 1906. Rules under "The Firearms Proclamation, 1902."

6 of 1906. Rules made under "The Hospitals and Dispensaries Proclamation, 1903."

7 of 1906. Rules made under "The Native Courts Proclamation, 1906."

V.—EDUCATION.

Government Schools.

91. Eight new Government Schools were opened in 1906, one of them being the new Girls' School at Onitsha. Of these schools, one was opened in the Western Province at Ayetoro, five in the Central Province (at Onitsha (2), Uromi, Agbor, and Sabon-gidda), and two in the Eastern Province (at Azumini and Eket). All these schools appear to have made a good start, and several of them are largely attended. The opening of the new buildings of the Lagos Mohammedan Government School was marked by a very large increase in attendance.

There are at present 31 Government Schools, four of them girls' schools, in the Colony and Protectorate, five in the Western Province, 17 in the Central Province, and nine in the Eastern Province.

92. It is a most hopeful phase of educational work in this Colony that a proposal to open a school is almost invariably welcomed by chiefs and people. Several District Commissioners have borne witness to the excellent effect produced in towns by the opening of a school. If the right type of schoolmaster can be obtained, the presence and example of an educated man in a "bush" village, all the inhabitants of which (with the possible exception of a Native Court Clerk) are wholly illiterate, will exercise a beneficial influence and will prove of assistance to the Government.

Mission Schools.

93. The progress made by the Mission Schools generally has been a most satisfactory feature of the year's work. The average attendances in the old schools assisted by the Government are greatly in excess of those of any previous year. A large number of new schools have been opened in places where before there were no schools.

94. The Church Missionary Society.—The 14 schools of this Mission which are carried on in Lagos have continued their good work throughout the year. The Grammar School, which is the oldest secondary school in the Colony, showed an increased attendance. The results at the annual examination were not so good as the Managers of this School have a right to expect, and the same is true of the other secondary schools in Lagos, the Roman Catholic, St. Gregory's School, and the Wesleyan High School. Relatively, the primary schools in Lagos appear both in respect of teaching and discipline to be ahead of the secondary schools.

The Church Missionary Society Girls' Seminary is a well-managed school under efficient European control.

In the Brass District, the Church Missionary Society carries on well-managed schools at Twon and Nimbe. It is to be hoped that the withdrawal from Brass of the European missionaries, who took an active part in school work, will not have a deteriorating influence on these schools.

The Niger Delta Pastorate Mission, an off-shoot from the Church Missionary Society, carries on useful schools in the Bonny, Degama, and Opobo districts.

95. The Wesleyan Mission has seven schools in Lagos subject to Government inspection and in receipt of Government grants, including one secondary school, the Wesleyan High School. Useful work is carried on in the large primary schools conducted by this mission. There has been considerable difficulty hitherto in obtaining and retaining the services of suitable teachers, but it is hoped that the Training Institution which is carried on at Ibadan will gradually remove this obstacle.

96. The United Free Church of Scotland Mission continues to carry on excellent work in its mission schools at Calabar, and on the Cross River, where they have opened several new schools in the past year. The Hope Waddell Institute and the Duke Town Grammar School still continue to supply the educational needs of Calabar and district, and at Creek Town, near Calabar, there are well-managed schools for boys and girls.

The Hope Waddell Institute is one of the largest secondary schools in the Colony, and occupies five buildings erected by the Government at a cost of £12,000. It is hoped that this school will justify the expenditure incurred. With a large European staff, it is especially fitted to be a centre for the training of clerks, skilled mechanics, and teachers for Government service.

97. The Roman Catholics have a considerable number of schools in the Onitsha and Asaba districts of the Central Province, and in the Calabar district in the Eastern Province.

The Onitsha Mission deserves great credit for the excellent educational work of the past three years. Whereas in 1903 there were less than 200 children attending school in the whole of the Onitsha district, the Roman Catholic Fathers were recently able to present no less than 630 children in their schools in Onitsha alone, and there are, in addition, 11 new schools in the outlying district which have been admitted as Assisted Schools.

The Onitsha Convent girls' schools and similar establishments at Lagos and Calabar, are doing excellent work under able European supervision.

The Roman Catholic boys' school at Calabar, is largely attended and well conducted.

In Lagos, the Roman Catholic secondary school has already been referred to. The elementary school teaching of this mission is here, as elsewhere, very good. One of the principal reasons for the undoubted success of the Roman Catholic Missions in this country is the adequate and careful European control and supervision of the schools.

98. The United Native African Church has two schools at Lagos in receipt of Government grants.

Technical Education. (Government.)

99. The Bonny Government School made good progress during the year, especially in the matter of industrial teaching. The following classes were successfully conducted, the attendance being good and the work done satisfactorily: Carpentry, Coopering, Agriculture, Telegraphy, and Typewriting. The school has benefited by the appointment of an Assistant Principal, which should ensure unbroken European supervision.

100. The two technical schools for carpentry at Benin City and Warri have been working regularly throughout the year.

The quality of the work done in the shops has been satisfactory. The greater part of the furniture supplied to the schools in the province during the year was made in these schools.

Mission Industrial Department assisted by Government.

101. At the Hope Waddell Institute, Calabar, there are Printing, Tailoring, and Carpentry Workshops in which apprentices are taught by European instructors, and it is hoped that in the future, while some of these apprentices find employment under the Government, others, more particularly those who have learnt carpentry, will practise their trades and teach others in their own towns and villages.

102. The Onitsha Industrial Mission, founded by Bishop Tugwell, employs apprentices at carpentry and furniture making under able European instruction. The house and office furniture made at this workshop has received high commendation from experts.

103. The Roman Catholic Mission at Onitsha has a useful carpenter's shop also under European control. Brickmaking and market gardening are also taught with considerable success.

Summary of Attendance.

104. It will be noticed that the average attendance continues to be very unsatisfactory. This is one of the great difficulties in the way of successful teaching in the Colony. At times of the year when labour is wanted on the farms the parents take the children away for weeks at a time.

—	Assisted Schools.				
	No. on Register.		Total.	Average Attendance.	Grants earned by Examination.
	Boys.	Girls.			
					£ s. d.
Lagos	3,530	1,335	4,865	2,837	2 428 19 0
Central Province ...	1,550	111	1,661	1,285	515 18 0
Eastern Province ...	2,400	423	2,823	1,288	1,104 4 0
Total	7,480	1,869	9,349	5,410	4,049 1 0
	Government Schools.				
Lagos	649	2	651	537	—
Central Province ...	1,038	115	1,153	802	—
Eastern Province ...	728	11	739	470	—
Total	2,415	128	2,543	1,809	—

With regard to the return from Government Schools, it must be remembered that the majority of these schools have been opened for less than two years, and that their growth, though steady, is slow.

Subscriptions to Schools.

105. The following receipts were paid into Revenue in 1906 as local contributions to Government Schools:—

—	Chiefs' Subscriptions	School Fees.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Central Province	687 10 0	109 5 0	796 15 0
Eastern Province	191 0 0	833 19 0	1,024 19 0
Total	878 10 0	943 4 0	1,821 14 0

These figures include £678 18*s.* 0*d.* school fees received at Bonny Government School.

106. The difficulty of obtaining suitable head-teachers for primary schools has still to be overcome, for though Bonny Government School and the higher grade Mission Schools are giving a fair supply of promising pupil teachers there is no doubt that competent teachers are still difficult to obtain.

VI.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Lagos Hospital.

European Section.

107. The accommodation for patients is as follows:—

European wards:

Ten beds—six male and four female; the average daily occupation being 3·3. There are four European Nurses attached to this Hospital; and besides nursing sick Europeans they supervise the nursing of the native wards, in which they take a great interest.

108. During the year the number of Europeans treated in the Hospital was as follows:—

Officials	...	61 (of whom 18 were Railway officials).
Non-officials	...	74
Treated	...	135 with 8 deaths.

Amongst the diseases treated were:

64 cases	Malaria	2 deaths.
11 ,,	Blackwater-fever	3 ,,
8 ,,	Dysentery	1 death.
1 case of	Necrosis	1 ,,
1 ,,	Morphinism	1 ,,

Native Section.

109. During the year 1906 the number of natives treated in the Hospital was 1,218, viz.:—

Officials	44
West African Frontier Force ...	237
Police	182
Paupers	755
Treated	1,218 with 91 deaths.

Yaba Leper Asylum.

110. During the year 1906 there were treated at the Asylum twenty-eight patients.

There was one death. Five absconded One was sent back to his country. There remained at the Asylum at the end of the year twenty-one patients (thirteen males and eight females).

Calabar European Hospital.

111. The daily average number of cases in the Hospital was 2·2. There are five European Nurses with one native Nurse for this Hospital.

112. During the year 1906 155 cases were treated in the European Hospital, one of which terminated fatally.

Among the 155 cases treated, there were eight of Blackwater-fever, three of Filarial Infection, 73 of Malarial Fever, and 2 of Dysentery.

Twenty-three cases were invalided, 18 to Europe and five for a sea trip.

St. Margaret's Native Hospital, Calabar.

113. There were 798 cases treated, with 44 deaths, being 11 cases less and five deaths more than in the previous year. In addition, 7,129 out-patients received treatment. Two European Sisters from the Roman Catholic Mission are attached to the Hospital and assist in attending to female patients.

HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

114. Among the less important Government institutions the following hospitals and asylums may be mentioned:—

A quarantine hospital was opened at Forcados, seven miles up the Elder River, away from the harbour.

The small native hospital at Warri was properly conducted, and a small European hospital, with two wards, has been opened at Sapeli.

The Lunatic Asylum at Calabar was used for criminal lunatics, but a larger and better constructed building was started during the year at Yaba, about four miles from Lagos. Hitherto lunatics from Lagos have been sent to Sierra Leone.

A beri-beri and isolation hospital, with two wards, has been opened at Bonny during the year. A native hospital is also on the point of completion, and was occupied during the last two months of the year. Hospitals for natives—well built in native fashion—are maintained throughout the districts of Southern Nigeria.

Prisons.

115. There are 30 prisons in the Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria, an increase of seven compared with the number in existence at the end of 1905; and the total number of prisoners confined during the year throughout the prisons was 12,171. The prisons are all in good condition, and several have been rebuilt and enlarged. As necessity arises the older buildings will be dealt with similarly. New prisons have been built at Agbor, Ikom, Oka, and Forcados, and for the present meet the requirements of these districts.

116. There were 277 deaths during the year, compared with 274 in 1905, and 31 judicial executions. There were 89 escapes and 68 recaptures.

The total number of punishments inflicted was 964; of these 118 were corporal and 846 loss of marks, reduced diets, solitary confinements, &c.; the increase in punishments is attributed to the larger number of prisoners confined.

117. The earnings of the prisoners in the Colony and Protectorate during the year amounted to £16,873; and the expenditure on their maintenance, &c., to £22,230.

118. The health of the prisoners has been good and no serious epidemics have occurred. All prisons have been regularly visited by the Visitors of Prisons during the year, and their reports on prisoners and prisons were generally favourable. In the few instances when they were adverse, steps were at once taken to rectify the faults.

The Transfer of Prisoners Ordinance has been of great assistance in relieving overcrowding, and also enabled convicts to be moved to districts where their labour could be better utilized.

119. During the year great improvement was noticeable in the efficiency of the native staff, but there is still great difficulty experienced in obtaining the services of suitable men for prison duties.

VII.—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

Judicial Report.

Lagos.

120. The total number of persons brought before the Police Magistrate at Lagos and before the various District Commissioners of the Western Province presiding in their own District Courts, was 2,900, as against 2,420 in 1905. Of this number 188 were discharged for want of prosecution, 348 were discharged on the merits, 2,266 summarily convicted, and 98 committed for trial.

121. Though 98 persons were committed for trial in 1906 yet the Returns show 124 persons as having been tried at the Assizes (as against 81 in 1905). This discrepancy is due to the fact that the Assizes being held quarterly, persons committed for trial during the months of October, November, and December in any year are not tried before January of the next year.

The following table shows the number of cases dealt with in the various District Courts, the nature of the offences, and how they were disposed of:—

—	Number discharged failing prosecution or sufficient evidence.	Number of cases discharged.	Number of persons summarily convicted	Number of persons committed for trial.
Offences against the Person—				
Lagos	32	30	116	1
Badagry	1	6	32	2
Epe	3	9	35	—
Ikorodu	4	15	25	—
Shagamu	4	17	25	—
Ibadan	4	13	26	—
Abeokuta	1	1	8	—
Total	49	91	267	3
Cattle Stealing and Arson—				
Lagos	6	2	9	—
Badagry	—	3	32	3
Epe	—	—	1	—
Ikorodu	—	1	3	—
Shagamu	—	1	5	—
Ibadan	—	1	3	—
Abeokuta	—	—	—	—
Total	6	8	53	3

—	Number discharged failing prosecution or sufficient evidence.	Number of cases discharged.	Number of persons summarily convicted.	Number of persons committed for trial.
Offences against Property other than Cattle Stealing and Arson—				
Lagos	41	59	230	11
Badagry	12	22	83	9
Epe...	3	11	37	—
Ikorodu	—	11	22	2
Shagamu	—	9	23	—
Ibadan	2	13	31	—
Abeokuta	8	12	18	—
Total	66	137	444	22
Offences against Master and Servants' Acts—				
Lagos	1	—	—	—
Badagry	—	—	—	—
Epe...	—	—	—	—
Ikorodu	—	—	—	—
Shagamu	—	—	—	—
Ibadan	—	—	—	—
Abeokuta	—	—	—	—
Total	1	—	—	—
Other Offences—				
Lagos	55	42	676	18
Badagry	1	36	257	18
Epe...	1	2	104	4
Ikorodu	6	8	190	11
Shagamu	—	12	182	7
Ibadan	3	7	48	11
Abeokuta	—	5	45	1
Total	66	112	1,502	70
Total Number of Persons Apprehended—				
Lagos	135	133	1,031	31
Badagry	14	67	406	32
Epe...	7	22	177	4
Ikorodu	10	35	240	13
Shagamu	4	39	233	7
Ibadan	9	34	108	11
Abeokuta	9	18	71	1
Total	188	348	2,266	99

Eastern and Central Provinces.

122. During the year 1906 the total number of cases dealt with by the Courts, not including the Native Courts, was 2,840, of which number 2,574 were tried by the Magistrates.

123. There was an increase in "Offences against the Person" of 111, and a decrease of 40 in "Offences against Property"; in "Other Offences" there was an increase of 485.

124. There were 247 prosecutions for burglary and larceny at Calabar in 1906, as contrasted with 234 in 1905.

125. On comparison of these figures with those of 1905 and other years the total shows a considerable increase, but this is due to the greater control of the area of jurisdiction, and also to the increased area brought under control, and the increase therefore will no doubt continue as time goes on.

126. There were 85 Native Courts in operation in 1906, the number of cases dealt with being 11,493 criminal and 25,520 civil. This represents a very great increase over the total for 1905, the number of criminal and civil cases in that year being 25,636. The increase may be ascribed to the more efficient work done by these Courts, and the greater supervision exercised over them.

Native Courts.

Table showing the number and classes of offences dealt with by the Native Courts, and how the cases were disposed of during 1906 :—

—	Total.	Assaults.	Other offences against the Person.	Larceny.	Other offences against Property.	Offences against the Adulteration of Produce Proclamations 1902 and 1905.	Other Offences.
Convictions	7,134	1,061	859	649	560	120	3,845
Dismissals	2,355	373	735	325	223	7	692
Transfers to District Commissioner.	147	12	23	8	7	—	97
Cases otherwise disposed of	1,857	189	440	189	248	5	786
Totals	11,493	1,635	2,097	1,171	1,038	132	5,420

VIII.—CLIMATE.

Temperature.

127. The mean temperature at Lagos Observatory was 80·3°. The highest shade temperature, 99°, was recorded at Onitsha and Afikpo in March, Asaba in February, and Benin City in March; and the lowest 54·5° at Benin City in January.

Rainfall.

128. The rainfall at stations on the coast is much heavier than at inland stations.

The maximum rainfall in 1906 was 251·49 inches at Egwanga, in the Eastern Province, and the minimum 40·92 inches at Olokemeji, in the Western Province.

The rainfall at Lagos was 74·76 inches, at Calabar 156·64 inches, at Bonny 142·26 inches.

The following table shows the rainfall during the year at stations where reliable registers were kept:—

Table showing the Rainfall (in inches) of Lagos and Out-stations during 1906.

Month.	Lagos.	Ondo.	Ibadan.	Olokemeji.	Badagry.	Epe.	Oshogbo.	Oyo.	Shaki.	Ilesha.	Otta.
January ..	1·04	·14	·06	·93	·62	1·22	—	—	*	Meteorological station recently re-established.	—
February ..	2·18	1·09	·96	19	5·28	2.78	—	—	*		·67
March ..	1·11	3·13	2·35	1·71	2·92	·77	1·47	3·46	*		1·52
April ..	4·00	4·01	5·15	2·10	5·72	4·19	6·89	5·10	*		3·52
May ..	16·02	7·98	7·13	8·01	13·52	14·50	5·58	7·79	4·64		13·48
June ..	22·30	8·70	4·22	6·43	11·32	16·03	5·24	5·89	6·94		6·59
July ..	15·90	12·43	9·69	6·93	8·02	9·01	10·49	5·69	4·71		14·50
August ..	1·68	4·77	2·88	1·02	·32	4·03	1·75	1·59	2·77		1·62
September ..	1·67	9·80	8·90	6·59	1·35	2·3.	12·27	5·61	7·80		2·23
October ..	6·91	·78	3·17	4·31	4·28	4·53	3·90	6·94	7·46		2·85
November ..	1·37	1·68	1·49	1·07	2·21	·86	—	1·68	—		·80
December ..	·58	·28	·40	1·63	2·30	—	·27	2·85	—		—
Total ..	74·76	54·59	46·40	40·92	58·34	60·23	47·95	46·60	34·32	—	47·58

* No records available.

Eastern Province.

Month.	Bonny.	Egwanga.	Calabar.	Bende.	Obubra Hill.	Brass.	Degema.	Opobo.	Owerri.	Afikpo.	Akassa.	Ikot-Ekpene.
January ..	·77	·30	·40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
February	2·16	3·88	1·05	3·88	—	—	—	—	—	3·00	—	—
March ..	3·25	5·47	7·11	2·06	—	—	—	—	—	·20	—	—
April ..	9·82	12·07	14·73	11·19	—	—	—	—	—	6·81	—	—
May ..	14·12	26·34	17·99	10·87	—	—	—	—	—	13·46	—	—
June ..	19·37	56·70	13·10	10·13	—	—	—	—	9·17	4·70	—	—
July ..	21·38	41·65	28·52	8·37	—	—	—	—	23·75	18·80	—	—
August ..	6·58	26·84	18·37	17·66	—	—	—	—	—	19·10	—	—
September	24·01	33·93	24·68	12·90	—	—	—	—	22·49	19·07	—	—
October ..	15·30	25·28	19·34	9·52	—	—	—	—	12·95	8·63	—	—
November	21·10	13·85	5·65	—	—	—	—	—	1·21	—	—	—
December	4·40	5·18	5·70	·50	3·50	—	—	—	·57	—	—	—
Total ..	142·26	251·49	156·64	87·08	3·50	—	—	—	80·14	96·77	—	—

Central Province.

Month.	Forcados.	Sapele.	Asaba.	Benin City.	[illegible]	Warri.	Aboh.	Onitsha.
January ...	·80	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
February ...	6·57	2·15	1·53	2·15	—	—	—	1·41
March	5·87	3·89	—	4·95	—	—	—	·77
April	4·46	9·21	4·48	3·85	—	—	—	5·95
May	11·34	9·41	2·49	10·47	3·80	—	—	9·69
June	8·14	15·55	3·58	3·06	6·80	—	—	4·03
July	13·20	14·73	1·79	16·32	1·49	—	—	4·74
August ...	13·35	14·78	4·26	12·34	2·33	—	—	15·60
September ...	13·85	16·33	15·36	17·12	7·90	—	—	9·25
October ...	13·65	17·24	10·53	17·07	4·85	—	—	6·35
November ...	2·95	2·90	·25	4·44	—	—	—	·27
December ...	4·15	·50	—	1·53	—	—	—	·15
Total ...	98·33	106·69	44·27	93·30	27·17	—	—	58·21

IX.—VITAL STATISTICS.

129. There are no means of ascertaining or even of estimating approximately the native population. Officers acquainted with the various parts of the hinterland have formed estimates of the population, which, added together, give the following figures:—

Western Province	3,000,000
Eastern Province	1,500,000
Central Province	1,585,000

130. The births and deaths registered form but a very small proportion of those which have actually taken place, and therefore the figures are of no value in considering the statistics of the whole country.

131. In the Eastern and Central Provinces accurate statistics have been prepared for the European section of the community; it is unfortunate that equally reliable statistics for the Western Province have not been kept, but an estimate of the European population has been made and death statistics have been kept in Lagos and Ebute Metta, which include the deaths of Europeans throughout the province.

132. The European population resident in the Colony and Protectorate on the 31st December, 1906, as obtained from the results of the returns from the various districts, is 1,022, distributed as follows:—

Western Province	400
Eastern Province	349
Central Province	273
	1,022

133. The following table shows the various districts in the Eastern and Central Provinces in which the European population is distributed and the deaths and invalidings which have taken place during the year. Similar figures are not available for the Western Province.

Return of the European Population as on 31st December, 1906, and of the Invalidings and Deaths, during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1906.

Provinces and Districts.	Males.			Females.			Total.	Invalided		Rate per 1,000.	Deaths.		Rate per 1,000.
	Officials.	Traders.	Missionaries.	Officials.	Traders.	Missionaries		Officials.	Non-officials.		Officials.	Non-officials.	
Central Province—													
Warri	12	29	—	—	—	—	41	—	1	24·3	—	—	—
Forcados	4	21	—	—	—	—	25	1	2	120	—	—	—
Sapele .. .	5	42	—	—	—	—	47	3	—	63·83	—	1	21·27
Benin City ..	14	21	—	—	—	—	35	3	1	114·28	1	1	57·14
Ifon	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Idah	1	2	3	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onitsha Asaba ..	24	22	27	—	—	19	92	1	3	43·47	2	1	32·6
Aboh	3	6	1	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	1	—	100
Ishan	2	2	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Agbor	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	333·3
Kwale	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oka..	3	2	1	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	1	—	166·6
	74	148	32	—	—	19	273	3	7	—	6	3	—
Eastern Province—													
Calabar	44	51	21	5	2	22	145	—	1	6·89	1	1	13·8
Eket	1	4	7	—	—	5	17	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ikot-Ekpene ..	8	2	2	—	—	7	19	1	—	52·6	—	1	52·6
Uyo..	1	—	3	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Owerri	5	3	—	—	—	—	8	1	—	125	1	—	125
Brass	4	8	2	—	—	1	15	—	—	—	1	—	66·6
Akassa	13	1	—	—	—	—	14	1	1	142·8	—	—	—
Bonny	7	13	—	—	—	—	20	1	2	150	—	—	—
Degema	1	31	—	—	—	—	32	1	1	62·5	—	1	31·25
Ahoada	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Aba	5	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Opobo	1	36	—	—	—	—	37	—	2	54·05	—	2	54·05
Ikom	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	1	250
Obubra	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Afikpo	11	2	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bende	5	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	—	400	—	—	—
Aro-Chuku ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abakaliki ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
	193	300	67	5	2	55	622	15	14	46·62	9*	9*	28·93

* In addition to these figures five Europeans died on steamers.

Deaths.

Western Province.

134. The following figures have been given in connection with the deaths among Europeans during 1906:—

Comparative table showing deaths among European population of Lagos and Ebute Metta from malaria and blackwater fever in 1900, 1905, and 1906.

Year.	Population.	Officials.		Non-Officials		Total.	
		Black-water.	Malaria.	Black-water.	Malaria.	Black-water.	Malaria.
1900 ...	233	0	5	7	10	7	15
1905 ...	—	2	1	2	6	4	7
1906 ...	400	1	0	4	5	5	5

135. Anti-mosquito work started and quinine prophylaxis first became prevalent during the latter part of 1900. It is to be noted that more influence can be brought to bear on officials than on other European residents as to taking quinine and early treatment.

Eastern and Central Provinces.

136. During the past year, as will be seen from the foregoing table, the Central Province has suffered most, in spite of the strenuous efforts which have been made in every direction to improve the sanitation and the conditions of living in the various stations. There were six deaths among officials and three deaths among non-officials from a population of 273; and in addition five deaths occurred on board steamers in Forcados harbour.

137. In the Eastern Province the number of deaths recorded is three officials and six non-officials.

138. On the whole, although the death-rate is considerably higher than in 1905, the health of the Europeans was better than it has been for years, for only 29 Europeans were invalided during the year, as compared with 88 in 1905, the next best figure during the last five years being 42 in 1904.

139. The following table gives the average death and invaliding rates for the five years 1902-1906:—

Comparative European Vital Statistics for Five Years.

Year.	Number.	Died.	Invalided.	Death-rate per 1,000.	Invalidings per 1,000.
Officials :—					
1902	125	3	31	24	248
1903	159	2	27	12·57	169·84
1904	157	7	18	44·58	114·64
1905	199	5	43	35·1	216
1906	198	9	15	45·45	75·75
Non-Officials :—					
1902	279	8	17	28·67	60·93
1903	301	10	27	33·22	89·70
1904	343	12	24	34·98	69·97
1905	334	7	45	20·9	134·7
1906	424	9	14	21·2	33
Total Europeans :—					
1902	404	11	48	27·22	118·81
1903	460	12	54	26·08	117·79
1904	500	19	42	38	84
1905	533	12	88	22·5	165·1
1906	622	18	29	28·93	46·62

140. It will be noticed that the death and invaliding rates among officials are considerably higher than among non-officials. This is no doubt because the officials undergo more exposure than the non-officials, who carry on their business generally at well-established centres, except those employed in the timber industry, whereas the officials are in many cases engaged in opening up new country and improving the methods of Government in up-country districts where the conditions of life are more difficult owing to lack of proper housing accommodation, sanitation, and to the necessity of living to a great extent on tinned food.

141. The rapid progress of these territories has necessitated a large increase in staff, and, although special attention has been paid to sanitation and the conditions of living, officials as a whole have had to live under very trying circumstances, especially in the Central Province and up the Cross River in the Eastern Province. At the same time the question of providing suitable accommodation for officers continues to receive special attention, and the building of quarters is being continually carried on, so that it is hoped during the next few years to provide proper quarters for the European staff, without whose energetic and cheerful work, frequently given under most trying conditions, the administration of the country could not possibly be carried on.

X.—REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

Marriages.

Western Province.

142. Sixty-one Christian marriages were registered in 1906, of which four were by Special Licence. One church was licensed for the celebration of marriages.

Marriage fees collected—£42 15*s.*

Eastern and Central Provinces.

143. The number of marriages registered as having taken place during the year was 80 against 74 in 1905, an increase of six. Of these 48 were celebrated in Calabar district, three in Afikpo, 12 in Uyo, 16 in Onitsha, one in Benin City. Sixty-four marriages were solemnized by the Church and the remaining 16 according to native custom.

District Registrars are accountable for fees collected under this head as they are made payable to them.

Instruments affecting Land.

Eastern and Central Provinces.

144. Four leases of lands were added this year to the Register of Government Deeds, three for lands in Calabar and one in Warri.

Thirty-three Instruments were registered during the year, namely 21 leases, 10 powers of attorney, one transfer of power of attorney and one notice to terminate lease.

Seven leases out of the above number were granted by the Government to various European firms and individuals.

The fees collected amounted to £25.

Western Province.

145. The sum of £235 8*s.* 9*d.* was collected for the year in fees for the registration of Instruments affecting lands, copying documents, searching the registers, &c.

Patents.

146. No patent for any invention was granted during the year in any of the Provinces.

Trade Marks.

Eastern and Central Provinces.

147. There were eight trade marks registered during the year and 11 applications, four of which were successfully opposed; the remainder have been published in the "Gazette."

Fees collected, which include fees for searches in the Register, &c., amounted to £29 1*s.* 6*d.*, as against £23 17*s.* 0*d.* in 1905.

Western Province.

148. There were 39 applications filed for registration of trade marks and 16 trade marks were registered. Trade marks' fees collected amounted to £43.

XI.—POSTAL SERVICE.

149. The development of the business of the Postal Department has been commensurate with the general advancement of the Colony, and there are large increases recorded in all the principal branches of the Department. During the year considerable improvements have been made in the post offices throughout the Colony and Protectorate, and especially at Lagos and Calabar. On the amalgamation of Lagos with Southern Nigeria an officer was appointed in sole charge of the Post Office, the Telegraphs which had hitherto been carried on in conjunction with the Post Office in Southern Nigeria and with the Public Works in Lagos being placed under a separate Department. This arrangement relieves the Post Office of a considerable amount of work and responsibility and allows the Postmaster-General to devote his whole time to the development of his Department, on which the demands of the public are steadily increasing.

Ordinary Correspondence.

150. The number of ordinary letters, post-cards, newspapers, and book packets which passed through the Post Office during 1906 is estimated at 1,701,466, being 214,711 in excess of the number dealt with in 1905. The figures for the years 1902-1906 are as follows:—

Year.	Number.
1902	920,237
1903	1,081,409
1904	1,277,983
1905	1,486,755
1906	1,701,466

Registered Correspondence.

151. The number of registered letters and other articles which passed through the Post Office during 1906 was 90,501. In the previous year the total was 69,642. There is thus an

increase of 20,859. The figures for the years 1904-1906 are as follows:—

Year.	Number.
1904	62,278
1905	69,642
1906	90,501

Insured Correspondence.

152. The number of insured letters and other articles, not including parcels, dealt with in 1906 was 80. In the previous year the total under this head was 101. There has therefore been a decrease of 21, due probably to the confidence reposed by the public in the registration system.

153. The following table shows the number of insured letters, &c., dealt with during the years 1904-1906:—

Year.	Number.
1904	56
1905	101
1906	80

Parcels.

154. The total number of parcels dealt with during the year was 35,636, being an increase of 4,588 as compared with 1905.

155. The system of insurance of valuable parcels was taken advantage of in 2,308 cases during the year.

156. The following is a statement of parcels dealt with during the years 1902-1906:—

Year.	Number.
1902	19,798
1903	24,711
1904	26,815
1905	31,048
1906	35,636

Money Orders.

157. The total value of money orders issued in 1906 was £54,257 18*s.* 0*d.*, being an increase of £2,566 14*s.* 10*d.* on the transactions of the previous year, the total for which was £51,671 3*s.* 2*d.*

158. The value of money orders received during the year amounted to £29,421 6*s.* 8*d.*, being an increase of £2,393 3*s.* 2*d.* on the previous year's figures, which were £27,028 3*s.* 6*d.*

159. The transactions with the United Kingdom in 1906 amounted to £29,117 7*s.* 8*d.*, being £2,735 14*s.* 1*d.* less than in the preceding year; but this decrease is more than accounted for by the large increase of £3,623 18*s.* 0*d.* in the value of

postal orders sold, the latter being more generally used than money orders for remitting small sums.

160. The following table shows the value of money orders received and issued during the years 1902-1906:—

Year.	Issues.	Receipts.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1902	32,206 5 5	13,492 13 11
1903	40,085 7 2	14,041 8 4
1904	45,022 17 0	18,811 3 4
1905	51,671 3 2	27,028 3 6
1906	54,257 18 0	29,421 6 8

Postal Orders.

161. The total number of postal orders sold during the year was 9,184, with a value of £4,688 13*s.* 6*d.* In 1905 the figures were 2,273 and £1,064 15*s.* 6*d.* respectively.

162. The number of postal orders paid in 1906 was 1,343, with a total value of £972 5*s.* 0*d.* In the preceding year the figures were 542 and £382 18*s.* 4*d.* respectively.

163. The postal order system was introduced into the Western Province in March, 1905, and from the commencement of the current year the system was extended to all offices in the Eastern and Central Provinces.

164. The following is a statement of postal orders sold and paid during the years 1905-1906:—

Year.	Sold.		Paid.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
1905	2,273	1,064 15 6	542	382 18 4
1906	9,184	4,688 13 6	1343	972 5 0

Mail Services.

165. The following additional internal mail services were established during the year:—

Itu to Aka
Itu to Ikot Ekpene
Ikot Ekpene to Uyo
Sapele to Kwale
Benin City to Ifon
Benin City to Agbor
} Weekly services.

166. The mail services between Bonny-Akassa and Bonny-Degema *viâ* Bakana, hitherto performed by canoes, have during the year been replaced by launch services. This change considerably expedites the delivery of mails to persons resident in these districts.

XII.—TELEGRAPHS.

167. During the year a considerable amount of construction work has been carried out in the three Provinces.

In the Western Province a direct wire (200 lb. copper) was erected between Lagos and Ibadan (128 miles) on the railway and handed over for working in June, 1906.

The Ibadan-Akure section (150 miles) was completed but further clearing was found necessary owing to frequent interruptions due to falling trees in the dense forests through which this line passes. Considerable progress was made with the clearing, which will be completed, it is hoped, together with a bicycle patrolling track along the line, in 1907.

168. Between Ibadan and Oyo the wooden poles were replaced by iron poles, and the wire, where damaged, renewed.

169. The Lagos-Forcados coast line, which consisted of an iron wire, was replaced between Lagos and Omulume by a copper wire, and since then has been working well to Leckie and Benin River. Between Benin River and Forcados, however, the cables have failed and a mile and a half of the Forcados River cable was carried away in a tornado by drifting buoys and tugs. In the Escravos and Benin Rivers the cable had become completely worn out. It therefore became necessary either to renew the cables or to close the line; it was decided to close the line temporarily and to provide new cables in 1907.

170. In the Central and Eastern Provinces during the year 181 miles of poles and 193 miles of wire were erected, and 4½ miles of cable laid, making an aggregate, since the commencement of the work, of 344 miles of poles and 357 miles of wire erected and 5 miles of cable laid.

171. Offices were opened at Agbor, Asaba, Onitsha, Oka, Oguta, and Owerri, quarters for the clerks and linesmen being provided in each case; except at Onitsha, where a permanent building costing £365 was provided, the offices and quarters were built of mud with mat roofs, and of a uniform design throughout. The furniture for the offices and all the fittings were provided by the Public Works Department, the cost of such offices furnished and properly fitted, together with quarters, averaging about £100 each.

172. Four parties consisting on an average of two European foremen, one interpreter, four native headmen, 46 labourers and two linesmen, worked for a total of 158 weeks. Two of the parties were disbanded for six months owing to the large number of foremen due for leave. Very conveniently their leave coincided with the rainy season.

173. The telegraphs in Southern Nigeria have been constructed through country which presents many great difficulties, and in order to prevent the inconvenience of delay due to interruptions caused chiefly by falling timber, alternative routes are being provided. The telegraphs have advanced ahead of the roads, and have penetrated through and opened up a considerable portion of the territory of Southern Nigeria, and, as roads, motor-transport, and railways follow through the territories thus opened up, many of the initial difficulties with which the telegraphs have had to contend will disappear.

174. The following list shows the position of the Department on 31st December, 1906:—

Telegraph Offices (including railway) ...	51
Miles Telegraph Wire	1,640
,, ,, Cables	44¾
Number of Telegrams (excluding railway)	152,054
Value of Inland Paid Telegrams ...	£1,321
,, ,, ,, Official ,, ...	£3,382
Value of Telegrams for abroad handed in at Government Offices:—	
Private	£1,888
Official	£845

XIII.—LANDS SURVEY.

175. The work of this Department has been chiefly topographic and geodetic, comprising mainly accurate theodolite traverses and refined telegraphic exchanges, for the purpose of establishing absolute and independent checks on the theodolite work, where "closes" were not possible.

176. The theodolite work now amounts to about 1,500 miles, and this has been checked by 14 telegraphic exchanges for longitude.

177. About 1,800 plots have been measured abutting on the Lagos Railway line, commencing at about the 33rd mile-post and continuing to the 60th.

178. A large contour survey has also been carried out at the source of the Ilo River, in connection with the proposed water-supply of Lagos.

179. A considerable amount of survey work has been carried out for other Departments, including (*a*) survey, location, and laying out of a tram-line from Five Cowrie Creek to the dejection jetty in connection with the new scheme of sewage disposal; (*b*) survey and levelling of portion of Iddo Island for filling in and improvement purposes; (*c*) a series of surveys and soundings on the Bar in connection with the bar improvement scheme; and (*d*) survey and soundings at Apapa for the development of the slipway scheme.

180. An important survey has been carried out at Ebute Metta, which has defined and detailed the greater part of the large area expropriated by Government in that locality; each holding and Crown grant has been described on approved methods, and the streets have been projected with a view to causing the least possible inconvenience to the property holders and enabling a proper system of drainage and sanitation to be carried out. Concrete pillars have been placed at the corners of each section, so that the Town Warden can see that a proper alignment is established.

181. A similar principle has been adopted in Lagos, but the congested state of the buildings has greatly hampered operations.

182. The important expropriations during the year were (*a*) at the Race Course for building purposes; (*b*) at Ebute Metta for railway buildings; and (*c*) at Victoria Street, for purposes of street improvement.

183. The total areas and amounts paid in each expropriation are given in the table below:—

Locality.	Area.	Total amount paid.
		£
Race Course	2 acres 3 roods 27 poles	4,279
Ebute Metta	about 3 acres	1,859
Victoria Street	„ ½ acre	437

XIV.—PUBLIC WORKS.

184. The principal works executed during the year are given below:—

Western or Lagos Province.

Principal Works.	Completed and in Progress.	Total Cost or Amount Spent during the year.	
		£	
Lieut.-Governor's House	Completed.	918	Lagos share.
Force Road Quarters Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4	„	5,140	Total cost.
1st Class Rest House	In progress.	—	—
2nd Class Rest House	„	—	—
New Transit Shed, Customs	Completed.	1,036	Total cost.
Apapa Slipway and Workshops ...	Workshops nearly completed.	5,382	Spent.
New Government Offices	In progress.	2,000	„ „
New Mohammedan School, Isalegangan	Completed.	610	Total cost.
New Offices and Stores for W.A.F.F.	„	2,214	„ „
King's Cottage, Ibadan Rest House for the Governor.	„	1,950	„ „
Offices and Quarters for Divisional Engineer, I.B.	„	668	„ „
Quarters and Offices for Inspector of Works at Aro.	„	419	„ „
New Police Barracks, Epe	In progress.	590	Spent.
Additions to Hospital, Epe	Completed.	400	Total cost.
Erection of Engine House and Boiler, Government Printing Office.	In progress.	108	Spent.
Repairs, Prince Eleko's Palace ...	„	100	—
Investigation, Ilo Water Supply ...	Work to be undertaken.	92	—
Fence Yaba Asylum	Completed.	247	—
Additions to Club House	„	518	—

Eastern Province.

Calabar and Cross River Divisions.

Principal Works.	Completed and in Progress	Total Cost or Amount Spent during the year.	
		£	
Removal of Barracks	Completed.	7,493	Total cost.
Artizans' Quarters	„	1,211	„ „
Engineer's Shop, Queen Beach ...	„	3,105	„ „
Additional Verandah to Force House	„	676	„ „
Verandah, P.W.D. House	„	300	„ „
Drainage and Sanitation, Duke Town	„	1,936	„ „

Eastern Province—*cont.*

Calabar and Cross River Divisions—cont.

Principal Works.	Completed and in Progress.	Total Cost or Amount Spent during the year.	
		£	
Extension of Printing Office	Completed.	270	Total cost.
Police Barracks Extensions	,,	401	,, ,,
Four Latrines, Duke Town	,,	449	,, ,,
Extension of Transport Store, Queen Beach.	In progress	431	Spent.
Drainage, Government Hill to River...	,,	184	,,
Additional Quarters, Itu	,,	1,058	,,
New Offices, Eket	Completed.	146	Total cost.
Offices and Stores, Okunni	,,	360	,, ,,
Prison, Obubra	,,	217	,, ,,
Bonny.			
Light Iron Jetty	In progress.	311	Spent.
Removal of Tunnicliffe Jetty ...	,,	195	,,
Police Office and Store...	,,	191	—
Hospital and Dispensary	,,	195	—
Egwanga.			
Light Iron Jetty	,,	386	Spent.
District Store	,,	96	,,
District Stables...	,,	77	,,
Degama.			
Hospital	,,	182	,,
Prison Staff Quarters	,,	100	,,
Akassa.			
Refrigerating Plant	Completed.	234	Total cost.
Lighthouse	In progress.	426	Spent.

Central Province.

Principal Works.	Completed and in Progress.	Total Cost or Amount Spent during the year.	
		£	
Quarters for Provincial Commissioner	Completed.	2,600	Total cost.
Officers' Quarters and Rest House ...	,,	1,631	,, ,,
Billiard Room	,,	624	,, ,,
School Buildings	,,	1,000	,, ,,
Sanitary Station, Forcados	,,	1,041	,, ,,
Iron Pier, Warri Point	,,	917	,, ,,
Native Hospital, Forcados	,,	329	,, ,,
Clerk's Quarters, Forcados	,,	656	,, ,,
Rest House, Sapele	,,	574	,, ,,
European Ward Hospital, Sapele ...	,,	542	,, ,,

CENTRAL PROVINCE—*cont.*

Principal Works.	Completed and in Progress.	Total Cost or Amount Spent during the year.	
		£	
School Buildings, Sapele	Completed.	121	Total cost.
Extension to Verandahs of Bungalows, Sapele.	"	513	" "
Establishment of New Stations ...	"	200	" "
Quarters at New Stations	"	703	" "
Civil Police Barracks, Warri	"	128	" "
New Roofs to Bungalows, Forcados ...	"	277	" "
Brick Tank for Water Storage, Ifon	"	521	" "
Transport Store, Forcados	"	507	" "
Leper Settlement, Onitsha	"	804	" "
Haulage Gear, P.W.D. Yard to River Onitsha.	"	453	" "
Military Quarters, Onitsha	In progress.	157	Spent.
European Hospital and Dispensary ...	"	594	"
Civil Police Quarters	Completed.	240	Total cost.
New Prison, Aboh	"	448	" "
Coal Store, Idah	"	246	" "
Onitsha Bridge over N'Kissi	"	854	" "

WESTERN PROVINCE.

185. Public Buildings and Works were maintained in a satisfactory manner, and the condition of Government property is, generally speaking, satisfactory, but a few of the older buildings are still much in need of repair or reconstruction; as, however, the cost would in most cases be beyond the means of the vote for Works Annually Recurrent, they have received only superficial attention until such time as funds can be provided for special repairs.

186. The money available was distributed as evenly as the several cases permitted, but there was an unusually large proportion expended on buildings in Lagos town arising out of the necessity for altering, extending, or re-arranging quarters and offices for the increase of staff due to the amalgamation of the Colony with the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria.

187. The re-forming and metalling of the principal streets of Lagos is the most important work of public improvement that has ever been undertaken in the town. No one who traverses the Marina or Victoria Road can fail to appreciate the change that two years have accomplished in these, the two most important thoroughfares of the town. The unsightly cross-drains which were an obstacle and a source of danger to traffic have all been converted into culverts and the roadway has been made continuous from end to end in each case.

188. The formation of the roadway from the terminus of the Marina at Kokomaiko was continued beyond Five Cowrie Creek bridge to a point near the firing range on the beach road in the direction of the signal station, and a branch road was made up Force Road past the Force quarters encirling the race course to rejoin the Marina by way of Prison Street near the hospital.

189. Besides the improvements to the road surface itself these alterations have involved the reconstruction of surface drains and the opening of new ones, which must have a beneficial effect upon the sanitation of the town. For the last three years there has been continuous activity in this direction to an extent never before attempted, and seldom fully realized or appreciated. Month by month the work goes on in an unobtrusive manner in the narrow lanes and alleys of the town, where it is so easy for the residents to escape the vigilance of sanitary inspectors, and where rubbish, which is now removed in the daily operation of sweeping down and cleansing the drains, was allowed to fester and pollute the atmosphere.

190. The filling in of swamps and the reclamation and protection of the foreshores has been carried on consistently and systematically for some years past; and the work done in the former direction within the limits of the town of Lagos, while it hardly represents one-half of the whole task undertaken, has greatly improved the localities affected, increasing their salubrity and enhancing the value of property situated in them.

191. It is reported that the past year has been marked by a degree of activity in the building trades never before attained in Lagos. Not only does this remark apply to Government Departments, but private firms have been equally active. The result has been a scarcity of skilled labour from time to time; but this has been met by the return of native artificers from other parts of the Coast whither they had gone in search of employment when work was scarce in their own town. The supply of labour has been, generally speaking, up to the demand, and quality and workmanship have steadily improved.

192. The Lagos artificers compare very favourably with those of other native races in their aptitude for carpentry, joinery, and bricklaying, but they do not show the same readiness or proficiency in the working of metals. This is not a little remarkable, because the first-named trades are, in their character, comparatively modern, never having been practised before the arrival of alien races, whereas the working of iron and brass has been a recognized trade, though followed perhaps only by isolated communities, for centuries. The mining, smelting, and subsequent treatment of iron was an art introduced into this country at a period so remote that it is now only matter for surmise: yet it is difficult to secure appren-

tices to the smith's trades, and when obtained they take much longer to become proficient than in the case of other crafts.

193. Eight new buildings destined for use as quarters were either commenced or completed in Lagos town during the year, a sum of over £11,000 being spent. In addition to these a portion of the west wing of the much needed public offices was commenced. The building has been designed with a view to utility rather than beauty, the ornate being usually superfluous in the case of buildings erected in the tropics, where by reason of climatic conditions it is difficult to combine utility with architectural merit. But the details have been skilfully worked out by the architect, and the building, when completed, should form a handsome addition to the public buildings of West Africa, as well as proving convenient and well lighted and ventilated.

194. The electric light service was efficiently maintained, and with the improvements which have been made in the generating station interruptions have been considerably fewer than formerly. Those interruptions which have occurred have been principally due to the effects of storms.

195. Among the miscellaneous services, probably the most important were those in connection with the exploration of the Ilo Valley for the purpose of securing a supply of water for the town of Lagos. The source examined is situated at a distance of about 20 miles from Lagos, a little to the south of the town of Otta, where a perennial stream of good water issues from a stratum of fine white sand, and constitutes the headwaters of the Ilo River. The investigations proved the supply to be abundant and the quality unusually good for West Africa.

Eastern Province.

196. The principal works carried out during the year under review comprised the continuation of the removal of the barracks to a site to the southward of Government Hill, where, so far as the work has proceeded, an excellent cantonment has been established. It still remains, however, to transfer the artillery from their old quarters on Government Hill to the new site and, upon the accomplishment of this, the removal will be complete.

197. An engineer's shop was erected on Queen Beach for the Marine Department—a substantial and conveniently arranged building, the lighting and ventilation being excellent. A considerable number of improvements and additions and other smaller works were carried out in connection with existing buildings in Calabar, the whole of which have been maintained in an efficient manner.

198. The drainage and sanitation of Duke Town is one of those undertakings which, although the progress must, by

reason of the character of the work, necessarily be slow, tends very surely towards the improvement of sanitary conditions. The reclamation of Duke Town Swamp was continued, and but little now remains to complete the work. The land so recovered must in time become a valuable building and trading site, and it is matter for satisfaction that the sums accruing from the sale of such lands usually more than cover the cost of the reclamation works.

199. The works undertaken in outstations of the Eastern Province, in what were formerly the Cross River and the Eastern Divisions respectively, were of great variety, but few were of any magnitude. The principal items were the extensions and additions to the Itu Rest House, rendering the building commodious and well arranged. The Rest House originally stood on the eastern bank of the river, on land inundated during the rainy season, but has now been transferred to the top of the hill on the opposite bank. The change may be readily understood to be beneficial in the highest degree. The removal of the old building was considerably simplified on account of its having been constructed of wood and iron; but the additions have been carried out in brickwork and other permanent materials.

Central Province.

200. The establishment of Provincial Headquarters at Warri, and the consequent influx of officers from outstations, have naturally focussed the activity in that station. The programme of works included a residence for the Provincial Commissioner, which is among the most conveniently arranged and best appointed houses to be seen in Southern Nigeria. Quarters were also commenced, and nearly completed, for three officers. A Club House has also been built. All these buildings stand on slightly elevated ground abutting on the river in a situation as salubrious as it is picturesque.

201. Among the other buildings erected at this station were commodious and well arranged school buildings, with quarters for the headmaster and assistants and a dormitory, a police office and store, and a medical store and dispensary and native staff quarters. There was also constructed by the Public Works Department, at the cost of the local authorities, an excellent Native Court House, to which has been added a clock tower with a public clock. Warri has now emerged from the primitive condition of a "bush station," and is in a fair way to become a credit to the Province of which it is now the capital. The progress made of recent years is very striking in view of the fact that every foot of ground on which the station has been built has been won from the dense forest and mangrove swamps which still surround the town.

202. At Forcados there were a number of new buildings erected, including a transport store built in response to appeals

from the British Cotton Growing Association for improved facilities of this nature in connection with transport on the Niger, a Native Hospital, and two blocks of clerks' quarters erected in substitution for those now standing on Pigeon Beach at an inconvenient distance from the offices. A quarantine station was built on a clearing on the creek above Warri Point, and a commencement was made in the construction of an iron pier for the accommodation of ocean steamers at Forcados.

203. The reclamation of land and the construction of roads across the swamps was also proceeded with. Satisfactory results have been achieved as far as the work has gone, and it is not now necessary, as it was but a year or two ago, for the district officials to attire themselves in sea boots in order to walk from their quarters to their offices.

204. There was general activity in building operations in outstations of the Province, the principal items being:—

Sapele:—
A new Rest House.
A new European Hospital and Dispensary, Stables, &c.
Benin City:—
Quarters for Clerical Staff.
Brick Tanks.
Sanitation and Drainage work around European quarters, &c.

A number of smaller works were undertaken at Ifon, Agbor, Kwale, and Ishan; and a new customs station was opened at Koko Town, a jetty being built there.

205. The development of Onitsha as the principal station on the Niger under the Southern Nigeria Government has been proceeded with—a task which is facilitated by the many natural advantages which the town possesses. A commencement was made on the new European hospital and military quarters; and the native hospital, dispensary, &c., and barracks for the Civil Police, were completed.

A leper settlement was commenced on the banks of the Anambra River, but the progress was slow and the work remained uncompleted at the close of the year.

206. Throughout the Province the public buildings and works were maintained, generally speaking, in a satisfactory manner. There has been from time to time in the past a dearth of labour, both skilled and unskilled, and the quality of the former is not usually of a high order. Considerable difficulty has been experienced in procuring good artificers for work in the Niger valley owing to its unhealthiness, the scarcity of supplies, and the savage character of the tribes inhabiting it. Its evil reputation in these respects has no doubt operated in the past as a deterrent upon the more peaceable and civilized races of Lagos, the Gold Coast, and

Sierra Leone, who might otherwise have emigrated to it; but, since the amalgamation, it is noticed that the Yoruba traders move more freely and confidently about this part of the country.

XV.—ROADS.

207. The scheme of road construction has made considerable progress during the year; and the work has been vigorously carried on, gradually opening up and bringing remote districts under complete control; and while trade has benefited the native has been brought more under the influence of civilization.

Western Province.

208. The Roads Department was actively employed chiefly upon the construction of roads to serve the purpose of feeders to the railway along the extension from Ibadan to Oshogbo.

The principal works done were:—

i. Road to connect the old parade ground, Ibadan, with the Residency road so as to accommodate the traffic from Railway Station to the Iwo and Ife Roads.

ii. Ibadan-Oyo Road repaired where necessary.

iii. New road from Iwo to the Station (part).

iv. Ibadan-Iwo Road diverted to side of railway from Olodo Market for about 2 miles so as to avoid crossing the railway at several points.

v. Cart track from Railway Station through town of Ibadan to connect with Residency.
Iwo and Ife Roads—in progress.

vi. Maintenance and repairs of all roads.

vii. New road from Oyo Road Station to Ibadan Residency and town completed.

viii. New road from Lalupon Station to Lalupon.

ix. Road from Oyo Gate to junction of Oyo Road Station and Residency Road, Ibadan.

x. Aro-Meko Road in progress.

xi. Road from Erunmu towards Ife.

Eastern Province.

209. The following table shows the roads the Road Department was engaged in constructing during the year:—

Return of Roads under Construction in Eastern Province, year ending December 31st, 1906.

Name of Road.	Total Distance.	Distance under construction or constructed.	Description of Road.	By whom constructed.	Approximate cost to date.	Remarks.
					£	
1. Calabar to N'san.	About 45 miles	14 miles completed	15-feet cart road, unmetalled.	Surveyed and set out by Roads Department; constructed by P. W. D.	2,327	This road will eventually run through to Okuni on Cross River, about 105 miles distance; at present no survey has been made of Odukpani, 14 miles out.
2. Calabar to Ikang.	About 21 miles	21 miles under construction.	10-feet earth road, unmetalled.	Surveyed by P. W. D. Work in charge of District Commissioner.	200	This road runs through low swampy country to Ikang Customs station; clearing has been completed.
3. Improvement of Oron-Eket road.	Not measured	Work proceeding locally.	10-feet earth road, unmetalled.	Works under the care of District Commissioner.	200	A rough survey was made by P.W.D., and work has been carried out in various localities along route.
4. Odukpani to Uwet.	About 20 miles	Not commenced ..	To be a 15-feet graded cart road, at present unmetalled.	A flying survey has been made and line of road located.	140	The survey for this road will be carried out in 1907. The country is very broken and hilly, with large swamps inthe valleys.
5. Improvement of path, Ikpa to Aka.	About 12 miles	12 miles under construction.	A 10-feet bridle path ..	Under charge of District Commissioner.	200	Bridle path from Ikpa Creek to Aka station being constructed by District Commissioner; requires setting out in many places.
6. Itu to Ikot-Ekpene.	23 miles ..	5 miles completed	15-feet graded cart road, at present unmetalled.	Survey ompleted by Roads Department; construction by Roads Department.	3,660	The 5 miles completed have entailed very heavy earthworks; a 6-ft. path is being formed over surveyed line; construction of 15-ft. road to continue in 1907.
7. Flood level embankment, Itu to Okopedi.	1 mile 3 chains	1 mile under construction.	15-feet cart road, unmetalled.	Construction now under Roads Department.	590	This portion of road is along the river bank, and consists of a high earth bank 13 to 15 feet above the surface. Work can only be carried on in the dry season.
8. Aro-Chuku to Esu-Itu.	4 miles	4 miles completed	10-feet road, unmetalled.	Survey by Roads Department; construction by District Commissioner.	75	The deviations are now completed, and there is a good road from Aro-Chuku station to Esu-Itu water side.
9. Afikpo to Bende.	Not measured	Work proceeding locally.	10-feet earth road, unmetalled.	Under charge of District Commissioner.	100	The work has been in charge of District Commissioner. No information to hand as to what has been done.
10. Aro-Chuku to Bende.	38 miles ..	Work proceeding locally.	10-feet earth road, unmetalled graded.	Roads Department are setting out deviations; District Commissioner doing work.	200	8 miles from Aro-Chuku have been set out and regraded. Work is also proceeding in Bende District. Lack of staff has caused delay in this work.
11. Obubra Hill to Okuni.	Unmeasured ..	Work proceeding locally.	10-feet earth road, unmetalled.	Roads Department setting out; construction by District Commissioner.	50	From Obubra about 5 miles have been constructed by District Commissioner; from Okuni about 9 miles.
12. Okuni to interior.	Unmeasured ..	Work proceeding locally.	10-feet earth road, unmetalled.	Roads Department setting out, construction by District Commissioner.	20	A new road from Okuni to Ikom is in progress, also a road from Cross River up to Ikon new station.

Central Province.

210. The following table shows the roads under construction at the end of 1906:—

Name of Road.	Total Distance.	Distance under Construction or Constructed.	Description of Road.	By whom Constructed.	Approximate Cost to Date.	Remarks.
					£	
1. Warri to Sapele	33 miles ..	Work proceeding locally.	15-feet cart road, unmetalled.	P. W. D. to date, and District Commissioner.	840	This road has been in hand some time. It is now included in the Warri to Benin new metalled road, construction of which began in December.
2. Sapele to Ologbo	11 miles ..	11 miles	12-feet earth road, unmetalled.	P. W. D. to date, and District Commissioner.	500	This road has been in hand some time. It is now included in the Warri to Benin new metalled road, construction of which began in December.
3. Ologbo to Benin City.	19 miles ..	Work proceeding locally.	12-feet earth road, unmetalled.	P. W. D. to date, and District Commissioner.	700	This road has been in hand some time. It is now included in the Warri to Benin new metalled road, construction of which began in December.
4. Benin City to Agbor; bridges and embankments.	Not measured	Work proceeding locally.	12-feet earth road, unmetalled.	P. W. D. and District Commissioner.	100	This road has been waiting for a proper survey to be made before construction is really taken in hand.
5. Akossa Siluko Bridge.	—	—	—	Roads Department ..	500	Iron work ordered and now to hand: construction of bridge to proceed next year.
6. Onitsha Oka road.	22 miles ..	10 miles complete: 12 miles under construction.	15-feet earth road, unmetalled	Roads Department and District Commissioner.	1,500	The latter part of this road is through very hilly country; construction should be complete by March, 1907.
7. Asabato-Ilusa, altered to Asaba to Okpannu.;	10 miles ..	2 miles under construction.	15-feet graded earth road, to be metalled.	Roads Department ..	1,500	This road is to connect the lignite deposits with the Niger. The survey is still incomplete but being carried on.
8. Ifon-Osse Ferry and bridges.	—	—	—	Marine Department ..	300	—

211. In connection with the roads of this part of the country the Provincial Commissioner has reported as follows:—

"Native paths throughout all the District have been straightened, cleared, and the stumps of trees removed, so that practically all over the Province, except in the hilly country north of Ifon and Idah, a bicycle can be used. As I write this a policeman has just handed me a special mail, having left Warri at 5.30 p.m. on the 27th and arrived at Benin City at 8.30 a.m. on the 28th—a total distance of 62 miles, done mostly by moonlight, with two rivers to cross by boat.

"The paths—they can almost be called roads—in the Kwale District are very good indeed, and the same can be said for those in the Ishan District.

"A straight road connecting Kwale District with Sapele and Warri is now being cheerfully cut by the natives, who appreciate being able to get down to the trading centres, where they may either trade or obtain employment, rather than have to depend on a middleman's canoe.

"The path between Siluko and Benin City has been much improved—a distance of 45 miles. A path has also been made from the former place to Lakaluko, at which place it is proposed in 1907 to erect a bridge across the river to Akossa.

"All newly constructed roads have been made under the superintendence of the Road Department—costing the Government large sums of money, the labour being paid at the rate of one shilling or ninepence *per diem*, a high wage indeed considering the quality of the labour.

"The natives have the task of keeping the existing roads in proper condition. They pay no taxes—and even for this work they are invariably rewarded by presents made to the Chiefs and towns in question, if the work is properly done."

XVI.—RAILWAY.

212. The Iddo Wharf Extension, opposite the island of Lagos and the sea terminus of the Railway, was opened to the public on the 20th of March, 1906. The work at that date was practically completed. During the year 9,873 tons of railway stores, chiefly construction material, were landed at the wharf. For the 10 months during which the wharf was used for public traffic 9,051 tons of merchandise were received and 20,355 tons despatched. To cover interest on the capital outlay and the cost of maintenance a terminal charge of 2*s*. 6*d*. a ton is levied at Iddo.

213. The extension of the Railway to Oshogbo (186-mile point) was in course of construction during the year; and satisfactory progress was made. The section Ibadan to Ivo

(30 miles) was sufficiently advanced to permit of its being opened to public traffic in October. The length, however, remained in the hands of the Construction Department for completion. Much ballasting was still required, and the permanent watering arrangements and station facilities remained to be provided.

214. Towards the end of the year sanction was accorded to the commencement of the extension to Ilorin, and to further investigation being undertaken to ascertain the feasibility of bridging the Niger at Jebba. A reconnaissance survey to Zungeru was also in progress. From survey information available, it would appear that the standard gradient of 1 in 80 and minimum curve of 10 chains radius adopted above Ibadan can be obtained to Zungeru.

215. The general results of working compare as under with the previous year:—

—	1905.	1906.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Gross earnings	72,649	84,663	12,014
Working expenses...	56,775	60,295	3,520
Net earnings	15,874	24,368	8,494

Of the increase of £12,014, a sum of £1,457 was due to additional receipts consequent on the opening of the Ibadan-Iwo section on the 23rd October, 1906. The receipts per open mile have increased from £578 to £645, or 12 per cent., while the expenses increased by about 1½ per cent. only. On the train mileage basis, results were equally satisfactory, receipts rising from 9*s.* 7*d.* to 11*s.* 7*d.* per train mile, or 21 per cent., while expenses increased by 10 per cent. only. The net earnings per train mile were 3*s.* 4*d.* as compared with 2*s.* 1*d.* in the previous year, an increase of 60 per cent.

216. The additional revenue derived from coaching traffic was £2,750, and that from goods £9,487. The rise in coaching revenue is satisfactory, as receipts from this source had been practically stationary in the previous two years. First-class passengers decreased slightly in number, but this was due to the introduction of concessions, consignors of merchandise contributing £5,000 per annum in railway freight being allowed free trader's tickets for their principal representatives. It is hoped that this system, by affording facilities for the establishment and extension of trading centres in the hinterland, will result in additional rail-borne traffic. There was a slight increase in second-class traffic, but the rise in coaching earnings is practically all due to third-class traffic, in which division the number of passengers increased by 13,704, and the fares by £2,209.

217. As regards goods traffic, public merchandise carried increased by 7,725 tons, representing £10,892 in freight. An inconsiderable portion of this was due to the newly-opened section; but merchants had not time to do more than make a commencement in opening business agencies at the new stations. The increase, therefore, might properly be attributed to the recovery in trade and the larger demand for export produce. The principal railway-borne commodities were:—

Iddo-Ibadan Section.

To Iddo.					From Iddo.				
Commodity.	1906.	1905.	Increase.	Decrease.	Commodity.	1906	1905	Increase.	Decrease.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.		Tons.	Tons.	Tons	Tns.
Ashes	181	230	—	49	Agricultural Implements.	6	4	2	—
Beans	36	90	—	54	Arms and Ammunition.	55	58	—	3
Cotton, Raw ..	3,539	784	2,755	—	Beer	27	20	7	—
Cotton, Seed ..	2,607	1,288	1,319	—	Cement and Lime	574	253	321	—
Cocoa	143	82	61	—	Crockery	99	96	3	—
Corn	2,591	2,307	294	—	Cotton Goods ..	965	784	181	—
Empty Pots ..	5	18	—	13	Corrugated Iron	592	704	—	112
Palm Kernels ..	17,571	15,266	2,305	—	Enamelware ..	44	32	12	—
Palm Oil	1,321	867	454	—	Empty Bags ..	369	228	141	—
Rubber	148	8	140	—	Empty Casks and Cases.	301	184	117	—
Shea Butter ..	92	131	—	39	Flour imported ..	36	28	8	—
Yams	178	70	108	—	Hardware ..	65	59	6	—
Yam Flour ..	6	56	—	50	Kerosene Oil ..	113	108	5	—
Other Articles of Merchandise.	20	15	5	—	Machinery ..	82	42	40	—
					Matches	85	51	34	—
					Provisions ..	86	83	3	—
					Rat Traps	27	29	—	2
					Spirit, Gin ..	3,923	3,306	617	—
					Spirit, Rum ..	440	522	—	82
					Spirit, Other ..	30	42	—	12
					Sugar	34	24	10	—
					Salt	4,238	4,146	92	—
					Soap	155	86	69	—
					Timber imported	20	21	—	1
					Tobacco	124	120	4	—
					Wearing Apparel	16	12	4	—
					Other Articles of Merchandise.	10	11	—	1
Tons					Tons				

Iwo-Ibadan Section.

To Iddo.		From Iddo.	
Commodity.	November and December 1906.	Commodities.	November and December 1906.
	Tons.		Tons
Palm Kernels ...	189	Corrugated Iron ...	3
		Empty bags	2
		Hardware	1
		Machinery	1
		Salt	80
		Spirit, Gin	2
		Spirit, Rum	1
		Sundries	3
Tons	189	Tons	93

218. The tonnage of cotton and cotton-seed was 6,146 tons, as compared with 2,072 tons in 1905, 1,296 in 1904, and 268 in 1903. It will be seen that the increase in the current year has been substantial. The free carriage of lint cotton was continued during the year, the railway receiving a book credit from general revenue at a rate based on an approximation to the actual cost of haulage.

219. The working expenses for the year amounted to £60,295, as compared with £56,775 in 1905, an increase of £3,520 against an increase of £12,014 in receipts, which may be considered satisfactory, as the average cost of working per 1,000 gross ton miles hauled was reduced from 623 pence to 565 pence. The principal factor of this economy has been the increase in the number of more powerful locomotives, four having been added to the stock in the early months of the year; their use has enabled heavier train loads to be hauled and train mileage to be correspondingly reduced. Something is also due to increased attention to the curtailment of unprofitable mileage, for with greater flow of traffic in one direction at certain seasons of the year, the light haulage in the opposite direction has to be carefully balanced. A general improvement has been the result, the average number of tons in a wagon having been increased from 4·62 to 5·11.

220. Closer attention has been given to train movement and other traffic operations, with satisfactory results. Attention has also been paid to the work of collecting statistics of population and trade in the northern districts towards Jebba and Zungeru, which will be of distinct value in connection with the extension of the Railway.

221. The year has been particularly free from accidents. There was only one case of injury to persons, that of an employé, who was inattentive to his duties. Of accidents to rolling stock there was only one of any importance, which was due to a heavy timber train being turned by mistake into a siding at Aro. Damage to the extent of £700 was thereby caused to rolling stock and permanent way.

222. The work done by the Railway as compared with the previous year, is analysed in the following statement:—

—	Year ended 31st December, 1905.	Year ended 31st December, 1906.
Train miles	151,401	146,368
Vehicle miles	1,181,111	1,290,337
Total number of passengers	106,972	125,584
Total tonnage of goods	58,263	55,784
Unit mileage	4,047,466	5,090,717
Ton mileage of goods	4,182,222	4,713,088
*Gross ton mileage	21,872,262	25,583,407
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Average receipts per open mile	579 17 6·6	645 5 11·6
Average receipts per train mile	0 9 7·2	0 11 6·8
Average receipts per passenger	0 2 6·6	0 2 6·3
Average receipts per ton of public traffic...	1 2 10·1	1 3 3·8

* Freight and dead weight.

XVII.—MARINE DEPARTMENT.

223. The fleet during 1906 consisted of 39 steam and motor craft, of which five were new vessels. Other river craft numbered 137, eight of these being new. The running expenses of this fleet, excluding the S.Y. "Ivy" and the S.S. "Trojan," amounted to £31,000 14*s.* 2*d.*, and the same vessels covered a total distance of 137,598 miles. In the regular services during the year 15,937 passengers travelled on 10 steam vessels, and 5,081 tons of cargo were carried by three steam and one motor craft.

224. Two launches, the "Evelyn" and the "Constance," were condemned and written off the books as unfit for further service. One pinnace, the "Parrot," sank and had to be regarded as a total loss. The S.Y. "Maud" was out of commission during the year, and was used as residential quarters for Government Officers.

225. The passenger and transport services carried on by the Department were efficiently maintained during the year. In one or two instances they met with so marked an increase of popularity that the systems, which had been prepared in view of small services only, became quite inadequate to deal with the whole of the traffic, and had to be re-organized in a much shorter period than had been anticipated. A special feature in this connection has been the introduction of shallow-draught motor-driven vessels of various types upon the Cross River. The general results of working them, experimental though it has been, tend to show that these vessels are destined to play an important part in the future navigation of the inland waterways of the country.

226. As regards sea-going transport, the S.Y. "Ivy" and the S.S. "Trojan," the latter newly purchased at a cost of £5,372, have been fully employed during the year. The "Trojan" especially conducted an important coastwise traffic, and was in ever-increasing demand in carrying cargo and for other miscellaneous duties, chief among which may be mentioned the assistance which has been rendered to the Government telegraph service.

227. The port of Lagos has been kept in a satisfactory and navigable condition. The possession of the steam lifeboat "Moseley" has enabled close observation to be made of all changes on the bar, the draught on which has remained at 9 feet 9 inches for steamers and 8 feet 9 inches for sailing vessels. The buoys and beacons have received constant supervision, and a large beacon has been erected inside Beecroft Point towards the lighthouse, where it furnishes an excellent leading mark. A new signal station has been erected in place of the old one, which was unfit for further use. The Lighthouse has performed its work satisfactorily and no complaints have been received from passing vessels. The establishment of the new dockyard at Apapa has been steadily carried on.

228. In the construction branch of the Lagos Dockyard one steam launch was built; one laid down the previous year was finished; and a third was commenced. A steel houseboat, with a pitch-pine deck-house was also constructed to provide quarters for the customs staff at Ajara, on the boundary. Besides these there were built one rowing cutter, a 25 ft. ferry boat, one Accra canoe, and two 15 ft. dinghies.

229. Although Akassa, under the new *régime*, became a subsidiary station to Calabar, it still continued to be the principal repairing depôt for the Central and Eastern Provinces. As time goes on, however, its importance will diminish before that of Forcados, and in consequence no expense has been incurred on improvements in the yard. The work here for the Marine and other Government Departments during the year proceeded at very high pressure. No work was undertaken for trading firms, with the exception of repairs to

one steam barge. Fortunately no other outside work was required, as it could not have been undertaken. One launch was completely rebuilt and extensive repairs were done on the large S.L. "Vampire." Considerable structural alterations and additions were made to the S.S. "Trojan" to fit her for the navigation of tropical waters. In June a small refrigerating plant was erected, and was subsequently run successfully from the existing power supply of the shops. This has undoubtedly assisted to maintain in good health the European personnel of the dockyard. Great improvements were effected in the southern portion of the station, swamps being filled up and land reclaimed whenever labour was available. The technical training of skilled artificers in the school established at this station went on with satisfactory results. The average attendance of apprentices showed an increase, in consequence of the utmost legitimate pressure and inducement being brought to bear to secure the attendance of every individual, their former reluctance being thus in some measure overcome. The training of natives in seamanship also gave good results, and, for the first time since the classes for this purpose were instituted, the supply of the requisite ratings was found equal to the demand.

230. At Calabar work has been carried on throughout the year at considerable disadvantage, owing to the erection of the new shops and offices outside the site of the old ones. The new buildings were practically completed at the end of the year, and the new power engine, machinery, and general internal equipment have been successfully running for some time. Additional store-room accommodation has been provided; and this and the new shops together constitute a thoroughly efficient and up-to-date establishment. No stoppage of work was entailed by the building operations, and amongst the principal works executed during the year were the rebuilding of a steam barge, and the erection of three motor craft which were received from England in sections. Besides this, all the usual necessary repairs were executed on existing craft, resulting in their being maintained in good working order.

231. Seven inland waterways were dealt with by clearing parties, and were either newly opened up, or greatly improved, for navigation. Eleven new or corrected charts were issued as a result of the surveying operations undertaken by the Department. The clearing and keeping open of sudd-obstructed routes was steadily pursued, and greatly facilitated the trade of the Western and Central Provinces.

232. In the Western Province the Gbekebo Creek was thoroughly cleared of snags, and the trees cut away in the narrow parts as far back as possible. The whole creek route from Benin River to Lagos was properly cleared so as to enable a small stern-wheeler to pass. A rise in the rivers between

Lagos and Benin River caused a series of formidable sudd blocks in the launch routes to Ayede and Siloko. An alternative route was opened in the lower Siloko Creek by which launches and rafts of timber could proceed to Benin River, avoiding the enormous sudd blocks; the other blocks in the Oluwa and Arogbo Creeks were removed at the same time, and the channels in the creeks were also widened throughout.

233. In the Eastern Province the Awoyon and Itenna Rivers were cleared, and the Calabar River was made passable for launches as far as Uwet. The Cross River was cleared from snags impeding steam navigation, and experiments were made (though they have not met with much success) in deepening the channel on the Itu flats in the dry season. The clearing of the Sombreiro River, opening up launch traffic to the new district headquarters at Ahoada, is important to the trade of that part of the country.

234. In the Central Province the work of clearing waterways both by explosive parties under a Marine Officer and by native working parties continued during the year. The River Niger, on which a mail and transport service is regularly run, was successfully cleared of the worst snags from Idah to Abekabo, at the junction of the Niger and the Edule Creek by the late Lieutenant Pierson, R.N.R. This officer and several natives were, unfortunately, killed by an explosion in July, 1906, a heavy snag having fallen across the canoe, which was full of explosives. During the year the Orashi River, connecting the Ndoni with Oguta Lake, was also cleared. Good work has also been done by natives in clearing the Ethiope River between Abraka and Obiariku, thus enabling large canoes easily to reach the headquarters of the new district of Kwale, which lies about midway between Abraka and Obiariku.

XVIII.—MINERAL SURVEY.

235. An examination has been made of the lead workings situated near the Aboyni River, in the Eastern Province, and some information obtained regarding the nature and extent of the deposits. From the results of analyses of typical samples of the ore made at the Imperial Institute, it appears that it is fairly rich in lead but contains only a little silver.

236. About two miles north of Afikpo on the road to Aba a sandstone most suitable for building purposes has been discovered, but at present it cannot be utilized owing to the cost of transport.

237. In the Western Province an examination has been made of the bituminous deposits at Ijebu Errimu Hill, Mafaoku, and the Errigu Valley. Apart from occasional out-

crops of nearly pure bitumen, these deposits consist essentially of sand, more or less impregnated with bitumen. From the results of the examinations of samples of these materials made at the Imperial Institute, it appears that the fairly pure bitumen is a product of considerable value, but it is improbable that the bituminous sands will be found to be worth exporting, although it may be possible to use them locally for road-making.

238. A survey of the Central Province was initiated during the year 1906-07, and a number of interesting results have been obtained.

XIX.—THE SOUTHERN NIGERIA REGIMENT.

239. The Southern Nigeria Regiment and the Lagos Battalion of the West African Frontier Force were amalgamated in May, 1906. The new regiment is organised as follows:—A Staff, a Regimental Depôt, one Battery of Artillery, and two Infantry Battalions of six Companies each. The Headquarters of the Staff, Regimental Depot, and the 2nd Battalion is Lagos, and that of the Artillery and the 1st Battalion, Calabar. In addition to these two places, garrisons for 15 outstations are found between the two battalions.

240. Garrisons for two new stations, Omoduru and Ikom, have been found, a company being stationed at the former and a section at the latter place.

241. The Native Officers of the 2nd Battalion (the old Lagos Battalion) have been replaced by British Non-Commissioned Officers, Maxim gun carriers enlisted, and a Regimental Depôt for the supply recruits to both battalions established.

242. The establishment consists of:—

European—

Staff.—1 Commandant, 1 Regimental Adjutant, 1 Intelligence Officer, 1 Civilian Pay and Quartermaster, 1 Regimental Sergt.-Major, and 1 Quartermaster-Sergt.

Regimental Depot.—1 Captain, 2 Lieutenants, 1 Instructor of Musketry, and 2 British Non-Commissioned Officers.

Artillery.—1 Captain, 4 Lieutenants, 1 Sergt.-Major, and 1 Sergeant.

Infantry.—2 Majors (Battalion Commanders), 12 Captains, 36 Lieutenants (including 2 Battalion Adjutants), 2 Bandmasters, 2 Armourer-Sergeants, and 24 British Non-Commissioned Officers.

Native ranks.—1,883.

243. The armament of the Artillery consists of 2·95-inch B.L. Mountain Guns, and the Infantry are armed with M.E.

carbines, but directions have been received for re-arming the Regiment with the magazine rifle. The 7-pounder M.L. guns on charge of the old Lagos Battalion have been condemned.

244. The Regiment took part in the following operations during the year:—

Bende-Onitsha hinterland patrol.—In November, 1905, the lamented murder of Dr. Stewart necessitated the despatch of a strong column to the Bende-Onitsha hinterland to deal with the natives concerned; strong opposition was met with, and the column under Major Trenchard was still in the field at the beginning of the year. The operations were brought to a successful conclusion by the 15th of April. Strength of Column: 24 Officers, 8 British Non-Commissioned Officers, 711 rank and file, two 2·95-inch guns, and 6 Maxims.

Kwale and Ishan Patrol.—Strength: 6 Officers, 2 British Non-commissioned Officers, 212 rank and file, one 2·95-inch gun, and 2 Maxims, under Captain Margesson, from 31st of October, 1905, to 27th January, 1906.

Ezza Ezhi Patrol.—Strength: 3 Officers, 1 British Non-Commissioned Officer, 220 rank and file, 2 Maxims, under the command of Captain E. de H. Smith, from 23rd April to 19th May, 1906.

Owa Operations.—On June the 9th news of the murder of Mr. O. S. Crewe-Read, Assistant District Commissioner, by the Owa people reached Asaba; and Captain Rudkin left the same afternoon with 3 Officers, 1 Medical Officer, 1 Political Officer, 194 rank and file, and a Maxim, and reached Umonede (40 miles) at 1 p.m. on the following day, where he received information that the enemy were in great force about five miles off. On June the 11th he met with most determined resistance the whole day and eventually reached the river three miles from Agbor having had Lieutenant Walmisley-Dresser and Mr. Chichester dangerously wounded, two rank and file killed, and twenty-five wounded. Reinforcements of three Officers, one 2·95-inch gun and 110 rank and file reached Captain Rudkin by June 19th, and he continued to have severe fighting S.S.E. of Agbor until July 2nd, when further reinforcements of three Officers, 130 rank and file arrived. With this force he attacked Owa, the scene of Mr. Crewe-Read's murder. This attack broke the back of the rising, and, though some outlying towns did not submit without further fighting, they had all come in by August 3rd, when the column broke up.

Troops were sent also to Benin City in October, but their presence there was found to be quite unnecessary.

245. The following casualties, amounting to just over 10 per cent. of the troops engaged, occurred during these operations: killed, rank and file, 12; wounded officers, Lieutenant H. C. Fox, Lieutenant M. C. Miers (slightly), Lieutenant Walmisley-Dresser (severely); rank and file, five dangerously, 58 severely, and 78 slightly.

246. The following deaths, discharges, desertions, and enlistments took place during the year:—

	Deaths.
Natural causes	19
Suicide	2
Total ...	21
Discharges	214
Desertions	29
Enlistments	325

XX.—INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT.

247. Most useful work has been carried on in this department during the year in compiling maps and sketches of new country and in reproducing and distributing maps and written information regarding the resources and topography of the Colony and Protectorate and the means of communication throughout the country.

248. During the year seventeen civilian officials passed through a course of instruction in route sketching, and four apprentice draftsmen received instruction in draftsmanship. Two books were published of an educational nature, "Notes on Bush Sketching" and "The Elements of Lithographic and Sun Printing," and a free issue of these books was made.

XXI.—CIVIL POLICE.

249. The whole Force is under the control of an Inspector-General of Police; and senior officers are placed in charge of the three Provinces, each of which forms a separate command.

250. The authorised establishment of the whole Force on the 31st of December was 1,084, and the actual strength was 1,052, which was distributed as follows:—

Western Province.	Eastern Province.	Central Province.	Total.
496	354	234	1,084
490	332	230	1,052

The deficiency was due to 21 River Police not being enrolled in the Eastern Province, as there was some difficulty in obtaining suitable craft for their work, and to the existence of 11 vacancies for ordinary constables.

251. The Force was distributed over 33 districts, 10 in the Western (including the railway area), 20 in the Eastern, and 13 in the Central Province.

In the Western Province constables are stationed in nearly all the important villages, but in the Eastern and Central Provinces the detachments are kept at the District Headquarters only.

252. In the Western Province, Meko and Jebu Ode were policed on the 16th July and the 18th of August respectively, the military detachment at Jebu Ode being relieved.

253. In the Western Province 29 cases of drunkenness were recorded, an increase of seven on the previous year. Twenty-one men were dismissed for misconduct, 22 reduced to lower grades, and 28 discharged. The total amount of fines inflicted was £71 14*s.* 9*d.*, against £66 6*s.* 6*d.* in the previous year.

In the Eastern Province, the discipline has improved. Fifteen men were dismissed for misconduct, 23 were flogged, and two deserted.

254. In the Central Province discipline on the whole was satisfactory. The total number of punishments inflicted was 130. Six cases of drunkenness were recorded. Twenty-one men were dismissed for misconduct, three reduced, eleven flogged for various offences, and five committed for trial.

255. During the year 240 constables were enrolled, 68 in the Western Province, 117 in the Eastern, and 55 in the Central, the period of preliminary training, undergone at the Provincial Headquarters, lasting from three to six months.

256. Owing to the great variety of dialects spoken, especially in the Eastern and Central Provinces, many tribes have to be enlisted; in the former there are no less than 21 tribes, the majority being Ibos, Efiks, Yorubas, and Ibibios; in the latter the number is 15, chiefly Ibos, Yorubas, Binis, Jekris, and Sobos. In the Western Province nearly the whole Force is composed of Yorubas, their language being universally spoken.

257. The whole Force is armed with the Martini-Enfield carbine, a sufficient number of weapons having been taken over from the Southern Nigeria Regiment. The prescribed annual course consists of 28 rounds per man, 7 rounds each at 50, 100, 200, and 300 yards.

In the Western Province 425 were exercised and the average score attained was 51·2.

Nil returns were received from the Eastern and Central Provinces, the explanation being given that rifle ranges were

not always available, and that difficulty was experienced in relieving men from their district duties. A great many men were, however, exercised in target practice at short range wherever it was possible.

258. Drills were carried out as frequently as possible. At the respective Provincial Headquarters drills were carried out daily for all available men, and lectures on police duties were delivered at least twice a week.

259. The detective staff in the Western Province, consisting of one superintendent and 14 detectives, all plain clothes officers, is not included in the Civil Police Staff. The Detective Branch investigated 52 cases and arrested 82 persons, 59 of whom were convicted and 23 discharged; 31 cases were also reported in which no arrest was made. The total value of property stolen was estimated at £642 1*s*., of which £416 was actual cash. The amount recovered was £202 11*s*. 6*d*., £180 14*s*. of it being cash.

260. A Detective Branch was also started in the Eastern Province with satisfactory results.

XXII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

261. The Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria, comprising an area estimated at 77,000 square miles, has been formed by the amalgamation of the two Administrations of Lagos and Southern Nigeria, and Sir Walter Egerton, K.C.M.G., Governor of Lagos and High Commissioner of Southern Nigeria, assumed the Governorship of the combined territories on 1st May, 1906, when the Letters Patent and Royal Instructions replacing those previously in operation were proclaimed with due ceremony in Lagos and other parts of the country and duly gazetted.

262. The Government is administered by a Governor assisted by a Lieutenant-Governor, who is also Colonial Secretary, and an Executive Council. There is a Legislative Council comprising both official and un-official members. The territory for purposes of administration has been divided into three Provinces: (1) the Western or Lagos Province, comprising the former Colony and Protectorate of Lagos with Headquarters at Lagos; (2) the Central or Niger Province, with headquarters at Warri; (3) the Eastern or Calabar Province with headquarters at Calabar. Each of these Provinces is administered by a Provincial Commissioner under the direction of the Governor.

263. The Headquarters of the whole administration has been established at Lagos, the capital of the newly constituted

Colony and Protectorate, and the heads of the various departments have offices in Lagos.

In the Provinces each Provincial Commissioner is assisted by a Provincial Secretary and a staff of District Commissioners and Assistant District Commissioners, as well as by a representative of each Department, who is responsible to the Provincial Commissioner for properly conducting the work of each Department in the Province.

264. The anti-malarial work which has been going on steadily throughout the country during the last six years continued to be vigorously prosecuted. Quinine is issued free of charge to all Government officials, and the native population has been encouraged to take the drug and to use it in the treatment of infants and children. The reclamation of swamp land in the neighbourhood of the various stations, especially at Lagos, Forcados, Sapele, Warri, and Bonny, and the clearing of bush and rubbish from around the settlements are being steadily carried out; and every effort is being made to destroy mosquito breeding-places and to maintain the stations in a sanitary condition. Special provision is now made in the Estimates for the supply of mosquito proofing to officers' quarters.

265. The Lagos Agriculture Show has already been mentioned in connection with its probable good effect on the agriculture of the country. The show was held in November last and under the energetic management of the Commercial Intelligence Officer it proved an unqualified success. Visitors assembled from Sierra Leone, the Gold Coast, and the neighbouring Provinces. The principal Western Province chiefs who visited the show were the Aremo of Oyo, representing the Alafin of Oyo (who like many other African rulers is supposed never to leave the royal compound), the Alake of Abeokuta, Eleko of Lagos, the Otun Bale of Ibadan, and numerous other chiefs from Ilorin, Ekiti, Ijebu-Ode, Epe, Ikorodu, and Badagry. The Central Province was represented by chiefs from Warri, Sapele, Benin City, Ifon, Agbede, Idah, Asaba, Onitsha, and Aboh, the Eastern Province being also represented by the Calabar chiefs and chiefs from Oron, Eket, Opobo, Bonny. These chiefs with their followers together with numerous people from all parts of the country formed one of the largest gatherings witnessed in Lagos. There were over 2,500 exhibits arranged in sections, consisting of specimens of forest, agricultural, and industrial produce, and there was also a section for animals and birds. It is confidently expected that this Show will assist materially in the development of the country.

Public Service.

266. The year under review forms part of the third year of the administration of Sir Walter Egerton, K.C.M.G., and his second tour of service in residence on the West Coast of Africa.

267. Mr. J. J. Thorburn, C.M.G., administered the Government from 1st January to 11th February, when Sir Walter Egerton returned from leave, and Mr. W. F. W. Fosbery, C.M.G., carried on the administration from 10th June to 5th August while Sir Walter Egerton was absent in England to consult with the Secretary of State on railway and other important administrative matters.

268. A Royal Commission was issued to Mr. J. J. Thorburn appointing him to the office of Lieutenant-Governor of Southern Nigeria.

269. For purposes of administration, as has been mentioned above, the Colony and Protectorate have been divided into three Provinces. Mr. W. F. W. Fosbery, C.M.G., Mr. F. S. James, C.M.G., and Mr. H. Bedwell have been appointed Provincial Commissioners to administer these Provinces under the Governor's direction.

270. The Treasury and Customs have been placed under the control of one officer, who is styled the Financial Commissioner; Mr. C. L. Dale, who formerly held the Office of Treasurer under the Protectorate Government at Calabar, having been appointed to fill this office.

271. During the year Chief Justice H. G. Kelly of the Supreme Court of the Eastern and Central Provinces and Chief Justice William Nicoll of the Supreme Court of Lagos received the honour of knighthood as Knights Bachelor.

272. Lieutenant-Colonel H. C. Moorhouse and Captain G. T. Mair were created Companions of the Distinguished Service Order. The Distinguished Conduct Medal was awarded to Sergeant-Major A. E. Klee.

POLITICAL.

Western Province.

273. Throughout the year the country has been peaceful and there is small likelihood of any important disturbance in the future. In Egbaland there has been some trouble between the Alake of Abeokuta and his people which might have assumed grave proportions, but this was averted.

274. A District Commissioner has been stationed at Oyo, who deals with administrative matters in connection with Oyo and Saki, which were formerly dealt with by the District Commissioner at Ibadan. This part of the country is thickly populated and commercially rich, and the presence of a government representative at Oyo, the capital of Yorubaland, will tend to increase the influence of Government and assist in exploiting the country, and the Alafin of Oyo will have the benefit of this officer's advice and support.

275. An Assistant District Commissioner has been stationed at Idiroko to assist the Officer at Meko in establishing more

complete control on the frontier with a view to stopping contraband trade.

Eastern Province.

276. The country on the whole was peaceful and quiet during the year. The Bende-Owerri Hinterland Expedition which had to be undertaken in connection with the murder of the late Doctor Stewart was completed early in the year. A patrol operated in the Abakaliki District during April and May. This part of the country is now being brought under control. The Enen patrol operated in the Aka District during October and November.

277. In April of the year under review a military station was established at Omoduru in the country forming the northern portion of the Owerri District, and the pacification of the country was commenced. A District Commissioner proceeded at the end of the year to Omoduru, but the establishment of civil authority was not actually effected within the year.

278. In the Abakaliki District the work of pacific penetration has not made much progress. The various tribes are wild, and influenced against European Government by the middlemen, whose profits dwindle as the country is opened up and the people gain sufficient confidence to trade with Europeans.

Central Province.

279. The attitude of the natives has been friendly, with the exception of the unfortunate rising at Owa, in the Agbor District. The Owa people, a portion of the Ika people, who are again an offshoot of the Ibos, have always been famed for their lawlessness and truculent conduct, and have an intense dislike to any control or Government whatever shape it may take. The country was quieted by the end of August.

280. The Ishan country was visited by a patrol in June; and in September, on account of the defiant attitude of the people of Awgulu in the Oka District in seizing people and blocking trade roads, troops visited that district and Awgulu was occupied. A Native Court has since been established at this place.

281. The Benin scare—for inquiry proved that a rising was never contemplated—has already been alluded to. The Provincial Commissioner in dealing with the matter reports:—

"One thing of which I am absolutely certain, is that the Binis, as a whole, have no wish by ending the European influence to fall back once more under the barbarous rule of the Kings of Benin. This is amply proved, I always consider, when it is a common sight to see the mothers, as a white man passes, bringing their babies from the houses to look upon the face of the white man, the type of the race which has made

life and property—especialy the former—safe in what was a land of terror; contrast this with the woman of any Ibo town newly visited, who hide their children behind them in case the sight of the white man may prove baleful to their young."

282. The progress of civilisation in the Province has been most marked, and the natives themselves show on all sides their appreciation of what the Government has done for them during the past few years in establishing the law and order which have opened up their roads to trade and rendered their lives and property safe.

GENERAL CONDITION OF THE COLONY AND PROTECTORATE.

283. The year under report has been one of rapid progress and expansion in every direction. The opening up of the country has been continued and the remote districts have been brought into closer touch with the civilising European influence. Several new districts have been brought under more complete administrative control. The traders have pushed their way further up country, and the Cross River for the first time is being properly developed. The means of communication have been considerably improved, making the work of the administration more effective and giving greater security to life and property.

284. The progress made in education has been most satisfactory, but the parents have yet to be taught that their children should not be kept from school during the farming season; and the want of proper teachers renders progress less rapid than it might be. Trade showed unusual expansion; and the prices paid for West African produce in the local markets were higher than they have ever been, while European prices reached a mark which had never been attained since the early nineties. There have been large increases in revenue and corresponding increases in expenditure. Railway, Marine, and Post Office in the annual returns bear eloquent testimony to the progress of the country. Lagos, the capital of the newly formed Colony and Protectorate, is rapidly changing for the better in every direction; and the improvement is not confined to Lagos, but the spirit of energy has been inspired into all sections of the community, and throughout the Colony and Protectorate the same marked improvement is displayed. Lagos harbour is being improved; the streets are being gradually and properly laid out and metalled; the public buildings are being repaired, and new buildings are being erected. Sanitary arrangements have received special attention, and it is pleasant to see that the desire for improvement in this direction is by no means confined to one section of the community. Government, merchants, and natives all benefit by the work which is being done, and Lagos promises to be in a very few years a well laid-out healthy tropical town. Cotton and rubber are now

being scientifically cultivated, and perhaps the most satisfactory feature of the year is the rapid progress in agricultural pursuits. At present the country is practically dependent for its wealth on forest produce, but the establishment of such industries as cocoa, rubber, and cotton will assure the future welfare of the people. There is clear evidence to show that marked improvement has taken place in the social, political, and industrial condition of the country and people, during the year under review, and that a very appreciable advance has been made in every direction.

F. S. JAMES,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Secretariat, Lagos,
21st October, 1907.

APPENDIX.

A.

Return showing the amount of Shipping in the Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria during the year 1906.

Flag.	Entered.		Cleared.		Remarks.
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	
Steam—					
British	298	504,865	261	443,993	
Foreign	177	209,932	181	213,762	
Sailing—					
British	3	1,341	3	1,272	
Foreign	1	6	—	—	

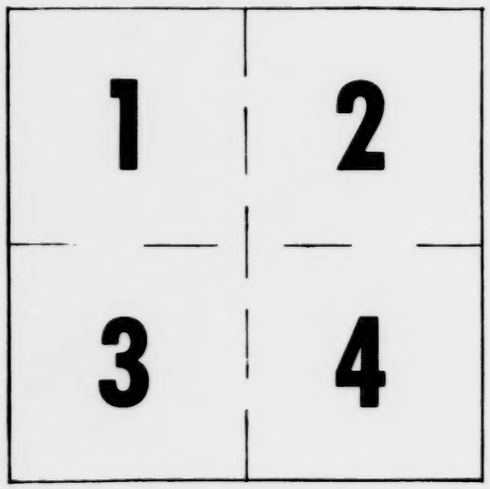
B.

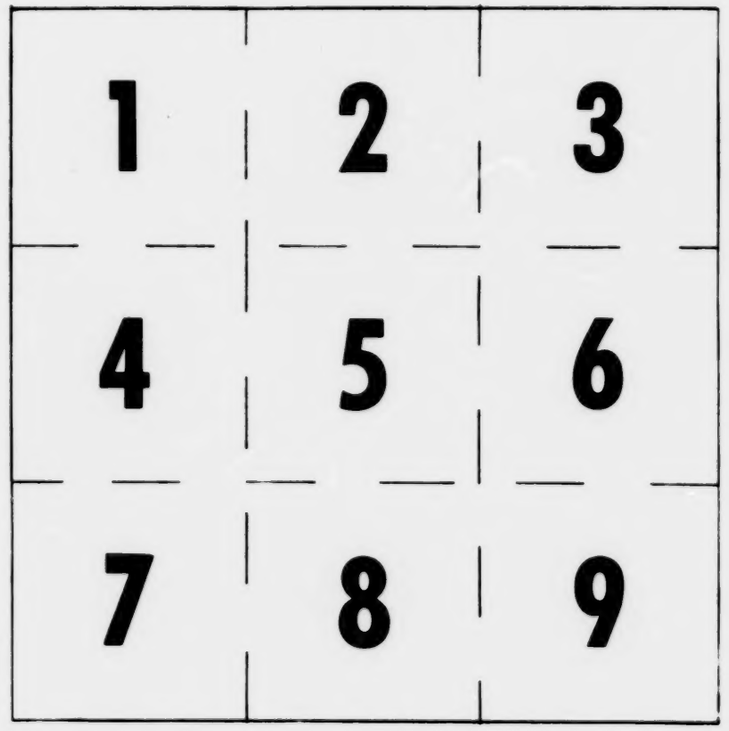
Diagram I.—Chart of Revenue and Expenditure for eleven years.

Diagram II.—Import Trade, United Kingdom and other Countries for ten years.

Diagram III.—Export Trade, United Kingdom and other Countries for ten years.

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.





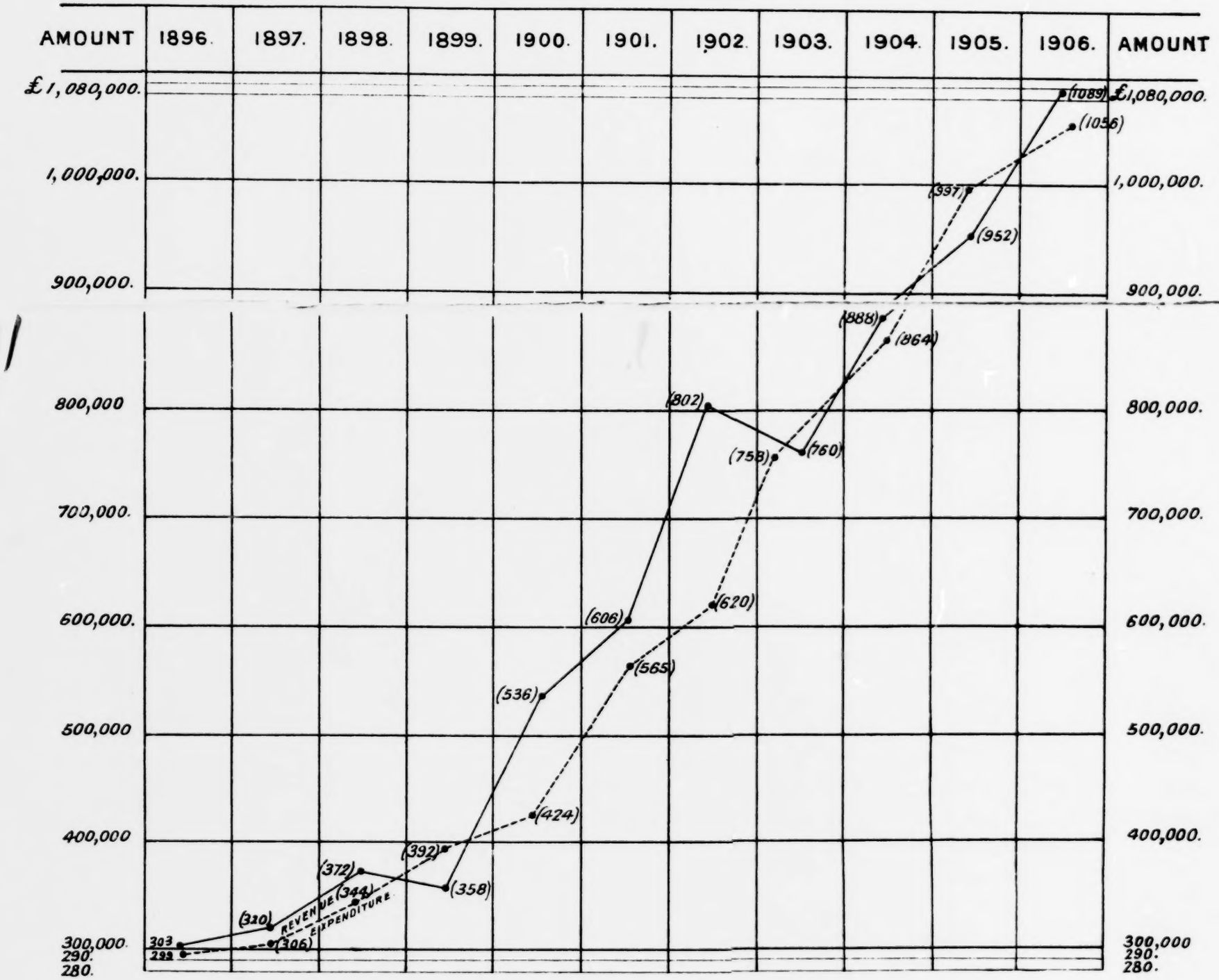
Appendix B. *Diagram I.*

COLONY AND PROTECTORATE

OF

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

CHART SHEWING ACTUAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE ELEVEN YEARS, 1896 TO 1906.



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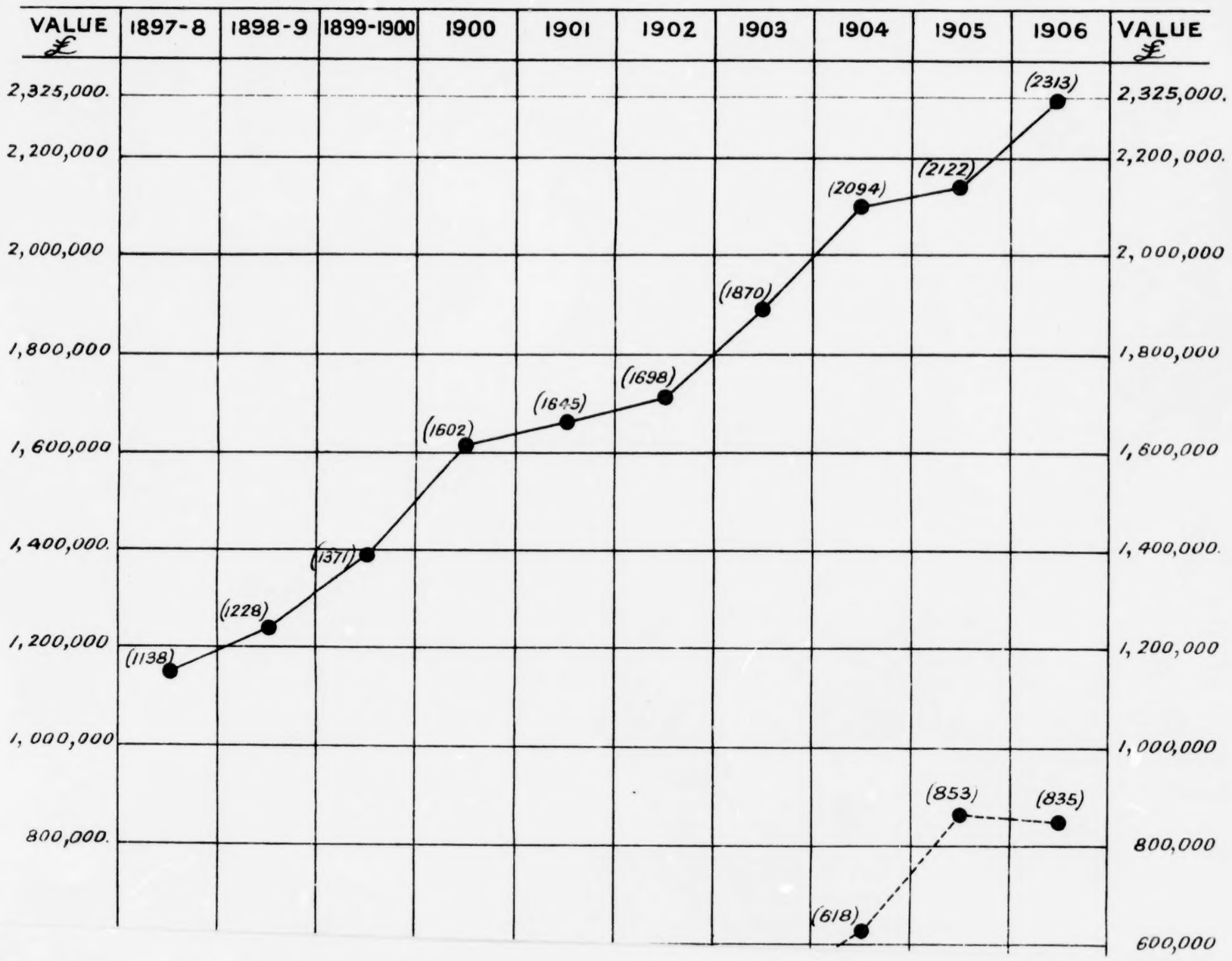
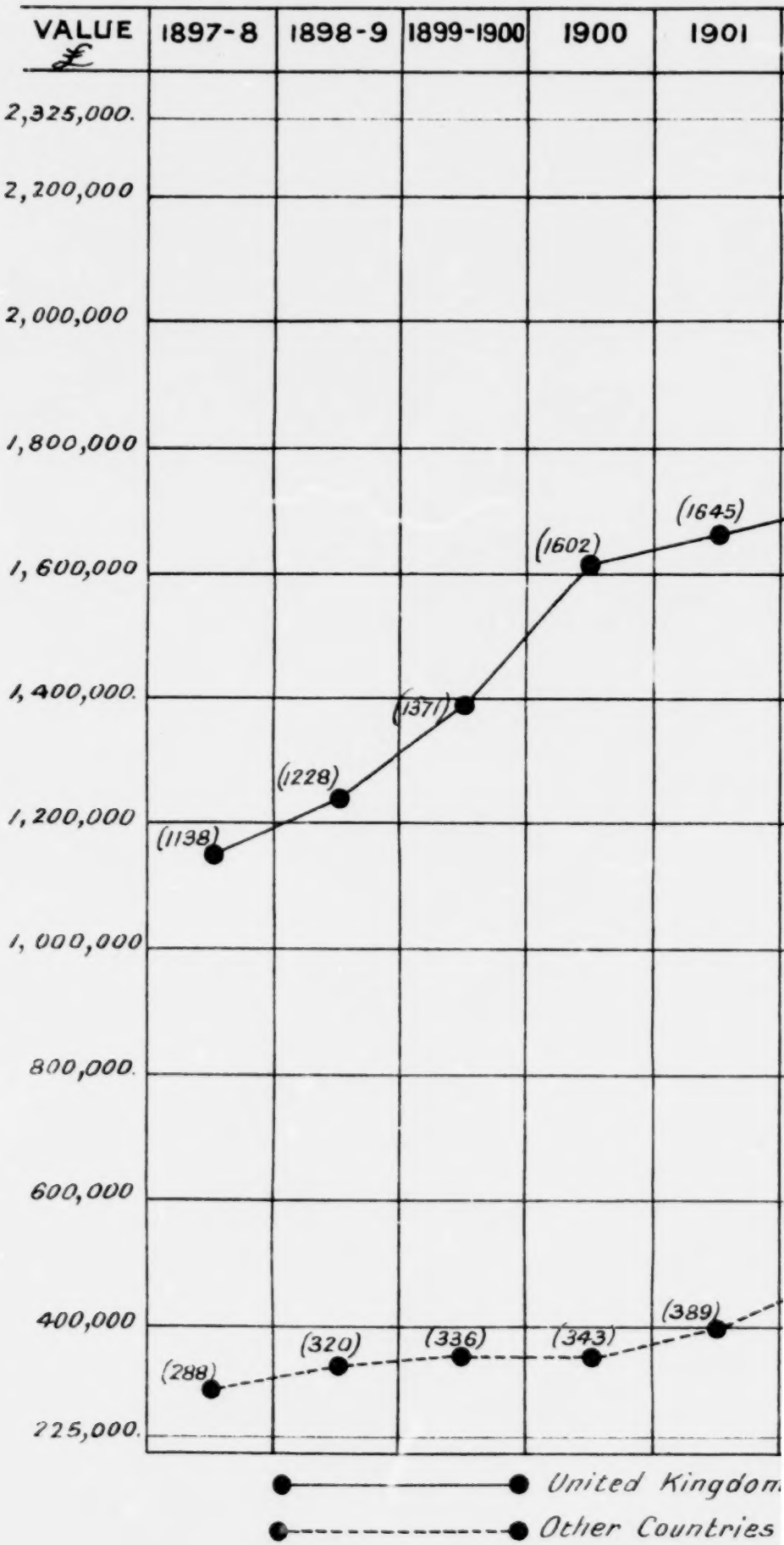
Appendix B. *Diagram II.*

CHART SHEWING THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM AND OTHER COUNTRIES INTO THE COLONY OF LAGOS AND THE PROTECTORATE OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA (COMBINED) FROM 1897 TO 1906.



OTHER COUNTRIES INTO THE COLON

OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA (COMBINED) FRO



All Figures to the nearest Thousand.

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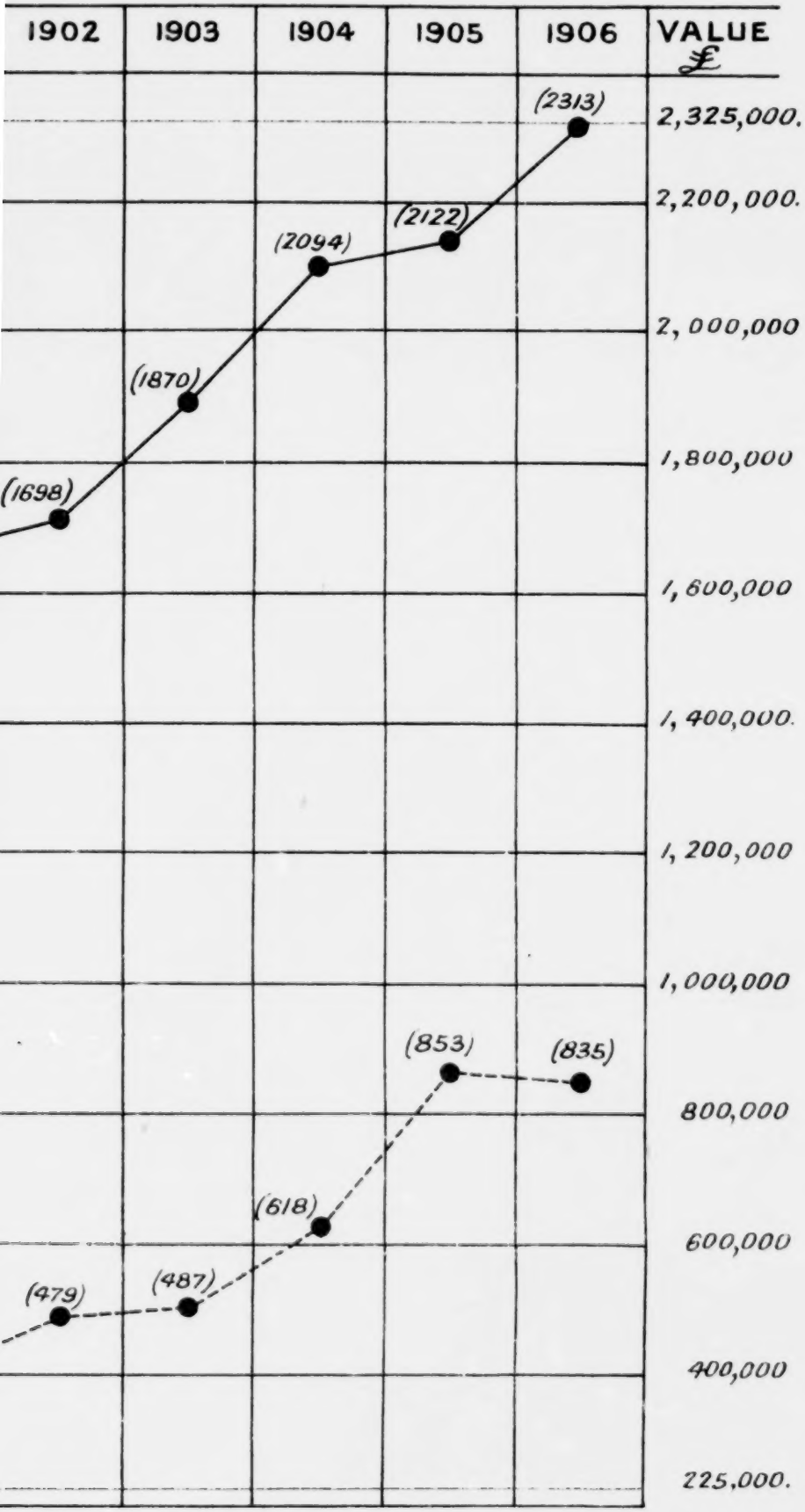
...M 1897 TO 1906.



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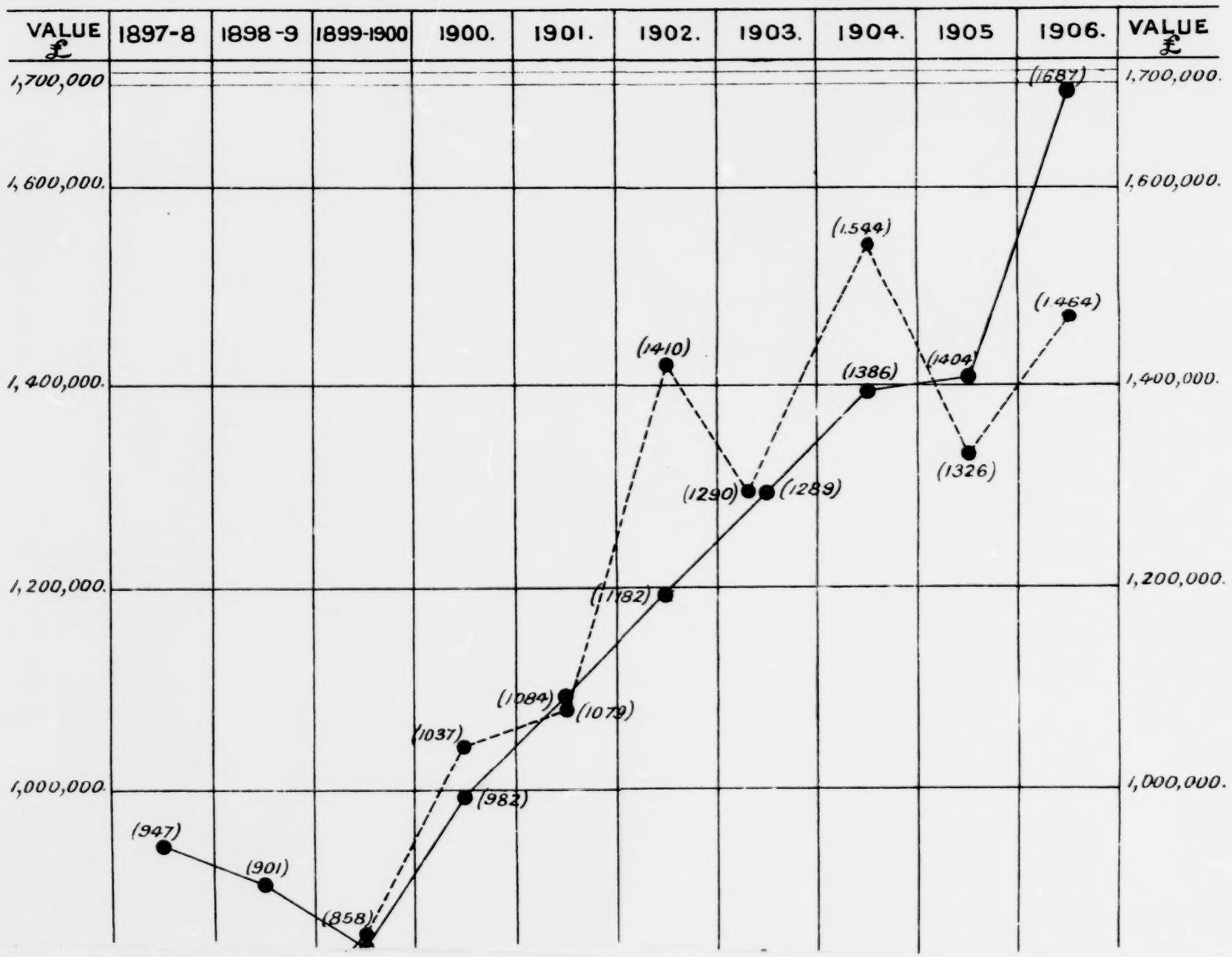
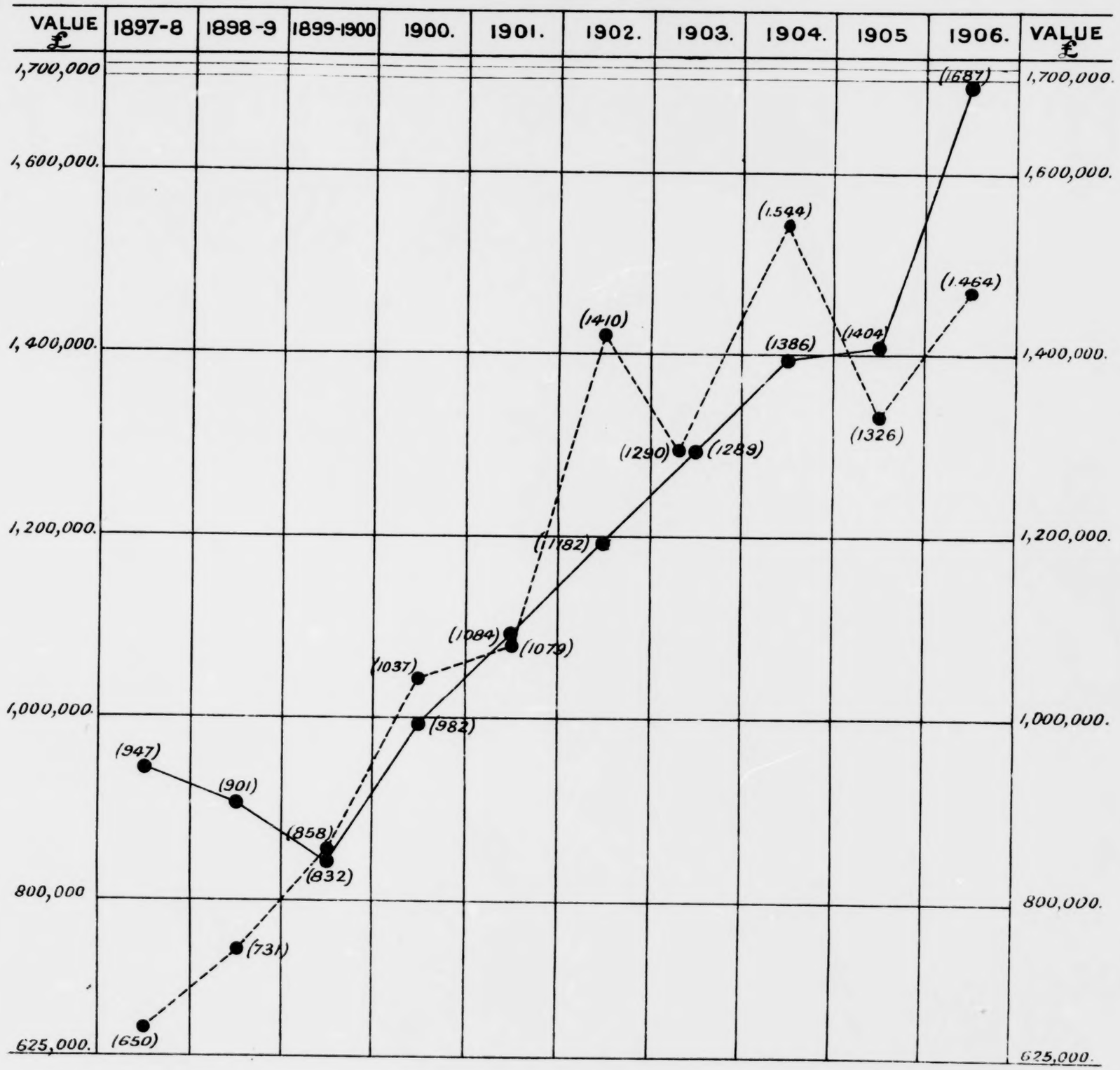
Appendix B. *Diagram III.*

CHART SHEWING THE VALUE OF EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM AND OTHER COUNTRIES FROM THE COLONY OF LAGOS AND THE PROTECTORATE OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA (COMBINED) FROM 1897 TO 1906.



OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA (COMBINED) FROM 1897 TO 1906.



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523	Ashanti	"
524	Jamaica	1905–1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	"
528	Bermuda...	"
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906–1907
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906–1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906–1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906–1907
543	Bahamas...	"
544	Barbados...	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906–1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia...	1906–1907

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture.
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate ...	Report on Kenia Forests.
42	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1905-6.
43	Caicos Islands	Fibre.
44	East Africa Protectorate ...	Survey Department.
45	Do. ...	Geology.

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1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 583.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

REPORT FOR 1907.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 554.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1908.

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No. 583.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 554.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Lagos, Southern Nigeria,
12th September, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Annual Blue Book Report on this administration for the calendar year 1907, which was one of very great prosperity as the following figures show:—

	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Revenue	1,088,717	1,459,554
Expenditure ...	1,056,290	1,217,337
Trade (exclusive of specie)	5,797,000	7,702,000

2. The report, compiled by Mr. F. S. James, Acting Colonial Secretary, is evidence of the excellent work done by the Civil Service of this Colony and Protectorate, and of the rapid development of the resources of this rich country.

3. The expansion of Southern Nigeria is well shown by the chart appended to the report.

4. The year is notable for the very great extension in trade and revenue, for the opening of the railway to Oshogbo, 186 miles from the coast terminus, for the inauguration of a volunteer force, for the commencement, after over 20 years of discussion, of dredging operations on the Lagos bar, and of the harbour works designed to deepen the entrance to the harbour, for the improvement in the health of the European population, and for the increase in the production of cotton as shown by the following figures:—

	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Value of cotton and cotton seed exported	51,906	107,891

I have, &c.,

W. EGERTON,
Governor.

The Right Honourable,
The Earl of Crewe, P.C., K.G.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
&c., &c., &c.

1125 Wt 25928 11/08 D & S 5 33965

ANNUAL BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR 1907.

FINANCIAL.

The total revenue collected amounted to £1,459,554, exceeding the amount estimated by £306,875, and the revenue receipts of the previous year by £370,837. The excess over the estimate is partly accounted for (1) by the increased duty on spirits—raised from 3*s*. 6*d*. to 4*s*. a gallon on 22nd December, 1906, and (2) by the high prices paid for West African produce in the European markets, resulting in increased importations of the staple goods for which such produce is exchanged and a corresponding increase in Customs duties and Railway receipts, the principal items of revenue affected. The foregoing reasons account for the excess over the previous year's receipts; but much is due to the increased confidence of the natives in the administration and the progress made in the development of the country by the improvement of means of communication and the establishment of peace and good order.

2. The following statement shows the receipts under each head of revenue compared with the preceding year:—

Head of Revenue.	1907.	1906.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs duties	1,178,193	885,858	292,335	—
Harbour and lighthouse dues ...	1,812	1,431	381	—
Licences, &c.	17,497	19,028	—	1,531
Fees of Court, &c.	79,380	47,128	32,252	—
Postal Revenue	8,196	11,840	—	3,644
Rent of Government properties	1,932	563	1,369	—
Interest	15,129	25,637	—	10,508
Miscellaneous	8,329	10,730	—	2,401
Railway and tramway	148,234	84,842	63,392	—
Land sales	852	1,660	—	808
Total	1,459,554	1,088,717	389,729	18,892

3. The receipts from Customs duties amounted to 80·7 per cent. of the revenue received from all sources. The receipts from specific duties totalled £994,130, compared with £754,888 in 1906, while *ad valorem* duties amounted to £184,063, compared with £130,970 in 1906. The following are the percentages of the duty derived from the principal articles on which duties of customs are levied:—

	Per cent.		£
Spirits	68	...	807,000
Cotton Goods	9	...	107,000
Tobacco Unmanufactured	8	...	93,000

4. The actual expenditure for the year met from revenue amounted to £1,217,337, as against £1,056,290 in the preceding year, while further expenditure chargeable to loans (railway construction, &c.) amounted to £296,871, compared with £262,343 in 1906. With regard to the expenditure met from revenue, the sum of £1,162,733 was supplemented by £85,046, and in addition the following expenditure originally intended to be met from loans was actually met from revenue:—

	£
Harbour Works	2,623
Warri-Benin Road	27,578
Dredger for Lagos Bar	49,179
	£79,380

The actual excess of the estimated over the actual expenditure amounted therefore to £109,822. As regards loan expenditure, which totalled £296,871, the sum of £280,766 was expended on railway extension, and £16,072 on harbour works at Lagos, preparations being made for the construction of the eastern mole in connexion with the deepening of the entrance into Lagos harbour. The total sum expended on railway construction to 31st December, 1907, amounted to £1,958,522.

5. The following statement shows the amount spent from each head of expenditure during the year 1907, compared with the preceding year:—

Head of Expenditure.	1907.	1906.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Charge on account of Public Debt	70,345	70,083	262	—
Pensions and gratuities	12,224	12,052	172	—
Governor's office	7,210	9,423	—	2,213
Colonial Secretariat	9,562	12,076	—	2,514
Political and administrative ...	68,814	66,568	2,246	—
Judicial	9,745	9,195	550	—
Legal and registration	2,677	2,610	67	—
Treasury and Customs ...	34,293 12,280	33,087	1,206	—
Postal and telegraphs	15,440	16,385	11,335	—
Audit	5,715	5,351	364	—
Printing	7,062	6,841	221	—
W.A.F.F., S.N.R	100,298	84,169	16,129	—
Volunteer Force	1,084	—	1,084	—
Marine	114,873	92,195	22,678	—
Civil Police	35,132	31,411	3,721	—
Prisons	23,503	22,180	1,323	—
Forestry and agriculture ...	20,723	17,401	3,322	—
Carried forward	550,980	491,027	64,680	4,727

Head of Expenditure.	1907.	1906.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward	550,980	491,027	64,680	4,727
Medical	48,250	45,609	2,641	—
Sanitary	3,516	2,613	903	—
Native affairs	20,212	8,964	11,248	—
Education	16,638	12,521	4,117	—
Land and Survey Department	1,229 8,588	9,236	581	—
Laboratory	639	636	3	—
Rent	1,566	1,013	553	—
Charitable	412	325	87	—
Transport	54,581	35,167	19,414	—
Contribution to Northern Nigeria	71,250	75,000	—	3,750
Miscellaneous services	21,179	50,596	—	29,417
Public Works Department ...	34,176	36,349	—	2,173
Roads construction	3,640	1,903	1,737	—
Works and buildings :				
Annually recurrent	36,461	51,216	—	14,755
Roads and bridges :				
Annually recurrent	5,732	1,398	4,334	—
Government motor transport :				
Ibadan and Oyo	4,265	—	4,265	—
Railway	74,997	59,181	15,816	—
Tramway	1,633	1,539	94	—
Carter & Denton Bridges ...	1,256	689	567	—
Works and buildings :				
Extraordinary	102,055	123,102	—	21,047
Roads and bridges :				
Extraordinary	65,744	15,899	49,845	—
Telegraphs :				
Extraordinary	17,715	11,204	6,511	—
Marine do.	61,019	21,105	39,914	—
Works chargeable to Surplus Funds.	9,604	—	9,604	—
Total	1,217,337	1,056,292	236,914	75,869

6. The following statement shows the total revenue and expenditure for the last five years:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1903	760,230 ...	757,953
1904	888,136 ...	863,917
1905	951,748 ...	998,564
1906	1,088,717 ...	1,056,290
1907	1,459,554 ...	1,217,337

7. There have been no important changes in taxation during the year, though the increase of 6*d.* a gallon on spirits practically affected the revenue of the year, as, although levied in 1906, it only took effect in that year from 22nd December.

8. The following is the statement of assets and liabilities on 31st December, 1907:—

Liabilities.	Amount.	Assets.	Amount.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Deposits due by the Colony and Protectorate—		Cash Balances	135,023 8 0
£ s. d.		Advances due to the Colony and Protectorate—	
Savings Bank 30,813 5 2		£ s. d.	
Sundries .. 133,871 13 6		Lagos Railway 104,788 10 9	
	164,684 18 8	Baro-Kano Railway. 24,000 0 0	
		Sundries .. 90,625 1 8	
			219,413 12 5
Drafts on Crown Agents unpaid.	846 18 4		
Remittances from Crown Agents.	3,000 0 0	Remittances in transit.. ..	64,434 2 5
Due on Sinking and Depreciation Funds	23,021 6 7	Investments—	
		Savings Bank .. 24,350 0 0	
Excess of Assets over Liabilities.	632,338 2 9	Sundries .. 357,648 16 11	
		Sinking and Appropriated Funds. 23,021 6 7	
			405,020 3 6
Total .. £	823,891 6 4	Total .. .. £	823,891 6 4

NOTE.—(*a*) Liability—Lagos Railway (1905) loan issued £2,000,000, realised £1,889,217 18*s.* 10*d.* net. Lagos Railway Construction Account £1,958,522 5*s.* 2*d.* (overpaid on this account from surplus balances pending issue of new loan £69,304 3*s.* 4*d.*).

NOTE.—(*b*) Extraordinary expenditure on services other than railway from surplus balances pending issue of new loan £16,071 14*s.* 7*d.*

The excess of assets over liabilities, amounting to £632,338, is £156,841 more than at the close of the preceding year, when it amounted to £475,497. The improvement in the financial position over that of 1906 represents the excess revenue over expenditure for the year 1907. A further sum of £85,376 was expended on railway extension and harbour works in anticipation of the raising of the new loan since floated: this sum is not shown as an asset, although it will become an asset when a similar amount is transferred to surplus balances from the loan since raised.

9. The total indebtedness of the Colony and Protectorate on 31st December, 1907, amounted to £2,000,000 raised by loan in 1905, which realized £1,889,552 net, and has been expended on railway construction. Provision has been made for the repayment of this loan from revenue by a sinking fund commencing in September, 1908.

10. The banking business of the Government is transacted by the Bank of British West Africa, under an agreement entered into in 1894. This agreement, however, applies only to Lagos, and equal facilities are still lacking in the Central and Eastern Provinces. The competition introduced into the banking business in Lagos by the establishment of a branch of the Bank of Nigeria has proved beneficial to Government and the mercantile community.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

11. Imports and exports increased abnormally during the year under review, the gross total value of the trade amounting to £9,824,391, compared with £7,185,269 in 1906—a difference of £2,639,122—or, if specie is excluded, amounting to £8,883,453, compared with £6,683,292—a difference of £2,200,161.

12. The principal reason for this large increase can be found in an exceptionally good "oil" season and in the high prices for West African produce prevailing during the year in the European markets, but at the same time due weight must be attached to the following factors:—

(*a.*) Improved means of communication by the extension of the railway, the construction of roads, the clearing of rivers, and the establishment of public transport services, resulting in the markets being made more accessible and in a consequent increase in the produce output;

(*b.*) Material development of agriculture throughout the country, more especially in the Lagos Province; and

(*c.*) The more settled state of the country, due to increasing confidence in the administration.

IMPORTS.

13. The value of the Commercial and Government imports for the last two years, excluding specie and import duties, amounted to: 1907, £3,839,339—1906, £2,847,317.

14. The following figures show the percentages supplied by the United Kingdom, Germany, Holland, and other countries:—

	1907. Per cent	1906. Per cent.
United Kingdom	75·3	75·6
Germany	12·4	10·7
Holland	8·4	9·5
Other Countries	3·9	4·2

15. Increases have taken place in all the principal imports except silk, which apparently drops from £60,000 to £48,000. The explanation has been suggested that some cotton goods in 1906 were wrongly classified as silk.

16. There has been an increase of £317,000 in cotton goods, the total imports being valued at £1,078,000 as compared with £760,000 during the year 1906. It is noteworthy, as an indication of the development of trade in the north, that cotton goods to the value of £132,000 passed up the Niger to Northern Nigeria during the year, whereas in 1902 the whole of the imports into that country are reported to have amounted to only £59,000.

17. The importation of spirits* aggregates about three quarters of a million gallons more than in the previous year. The percentage of the total importations during the last two years is:—

	Per cent.
1907	10
1906	10·6

It is noteworthy that in the Western Province with exports totalling to £334,000 more than in 1906, spirit imports increased by only 5 per cent. The value of the importations of spirits for each Province is given below:—

	1907.	1906.
Western Province	98,844	82,859
Central ,, ...	96,072	61,983
Eastern ,, ...	190,588	156,439

It is interesting to note the relative value of the imports of cotton goods and spirits into Nigeria during the year under review, comparing the cost of the goods in Europe with the cost when delivered from the Custom House for consumption in Southern Nigeria:—

	Declared value on importation.	Value with duty added.
	£	£
Cotton goods ...	1,078,224 ...	1,185,627
Spirits	385,505 ...	1,192,447

EXPORTS.

18. The value of the exports, excluding specie, compared with the previous year is as follows:—

1907.	1906.
£3,863,332	£2,950,391

and the following figures show the percentages taken by the various countries supplied with produce from Nigeria:—

	1907. Per cent.	1906. Per cent.
United Kingdom	52·7 ...	56·9
Germany	41·9 ...	39·2
France	2·2 ...	1·2
Other countries	3·2 ...	2·7

19. The percentage supplied to the United Kingdom has been affected by the increased export of palm kernels, as practically the whole of the extra production (20,000 tons) was taken by Germany, the consignments of kernels to the United Kingdom being 1,100 tons less than in 1906. The increased percentage of trade to France has been caused by the larger shipments of palm oil to that country (£74,000 in 1907, compared with £32,000 in 1906).

* A comparative statement of the imports of spirits during the past five years is given in the Appendix.

20. The following figures show the value and quantity of palm oil and palm kernels exported, compared with the preceding year:—

Palm oil, 1907, 18,332,531 gallons, £1,313,960 (including £48,000, Northern Nigeria).

,, 1906, 16,032,571 gallons, £1,001,648.

Palm kernels 1907, 133,630 tons, £1,658,292 (including £22,609, Northern Nigeria).

,, 1906, 113,347 tons, £1,193,939.

The exports are the best on record both as regards value and bulk, for, although, as far as palm kernels are concerned, the official returns for 1904 show that 139,000 tons were exported in that year, the figures for the first eight months included the kernels exported from the French Colony of Dahomey passing through the inland waters of Lagos. This transit trade is not now included in the trade of Southern Nigeria.

21. The following comparative statement shows the export of palm oil from each Province, compared with kernels:—

—	Oil.	Kernels.	Average gallons oil to one ton kernels.
	Gallons.	Tons.	
Western	3,848,739	57,505	67
Central	3,594,535	29,331	122½
Eastern	10,889,457	46,794	232
Total	18,332,531	133,630	137

From the foregoing statement it will be seen that there is opportunity for great development of the trade in kernels in the Eastern and Central Provinces, and, if the exports were only 75 per cent. of what the Western Province yields, 80,000 tons more would go out of the country yearly. In the Central Province improved transport arrangements will gradually improve the output. In the Eastern Province in certain districts the lack of transport and the ease with which the wants of the population are satisfied remain the chief causes retarding the development of the trade. From Opobo, the most important trading district in the Eastern Province, 25 per cent. more oil is shipped than from the Western Province, whereas the quantity of palm kernels exported amounts to 25 per cent. that of the Western Province. The difficulties of transport compared with the facilities in Lagos to some extent account for the difference, but the chief reason is the backward condition of the Ibibio and Kwa races. The average for 1907, with the high prices prevailing in the European market for kernels, was 137 gallons of oil to one ton of kernels, compared with 350 gallons in 1904, when not

more than three quarters of last year's prices were paid by the merchants. In the early days of the Protectorate the Opobo merchants paid over to the chiefs a larger percentage of the price paid for oil than for kernels, and the European traders by these "dashes" encouraged the oil trade to the detriment of the kernel trade. The chiefs compelled their people to trade in oil as affording them larger profits and presenting fewer difficulties. In consequence the Opobo native traders for years despised the kernel trade as "a small boy's trade," prices being small and profits less, with the consequence that only women and small traders engaged in it. Although all "dashes" have for many years been abolished, the up-river markets are still dominated by the Opobo chiefs, who do little to develope this trade, as they make ample profits on the oil trade, and their whole time is occupied in dealing with and transporting the more profitable produce. The extensive clearing of the Imo River and its tributaries by the Government in 1907 and 1908 will assist in hastening the further development of this trade which is sure ultimately to take place.

22. The quantities and value of rubber exported during the year under review compared with the previous year are:—

1907.	1906.
2,843,823 lbs.—£244,989.	3,434,279 lbs.—£307,077

The decrease in the export is due to the fact that tapping has been prohibited in some of the principal rubber districts. Officers of the Forestry Department give instruction to natives as to the best means of tapping and preparing rubber for the European market. All the rubber exported at present is forest produce. There are large tracts of land in well situated areas throughout the country suitable for planting Para rubber, and plantations of Para and Funtumia Elastica rubber started in recent years in the Central Province are doing well.

23. The value of the exports of timber, compared with the preceding year, is as shown below:—

1907.	1906.
£69,241	£68,718

The bulk of the timber exported was procured from West African mahoganies, valued at £62,834; the value of other timber amounted to £6,407.

24. The following are the export values of cotton for the last two years:—

1907.	1906.
£107,891	£51,906

Cotton has been exported for many years from Lagos, and the value of the exports (at the high prices then current) in 1869 amounted to £77,000. In 1903 the British Cotton Growing Association, aided materially by the Government,

commenced serious operations. At that time the average exports for four years past had been only 15,000 lbs. weight, of the value of, say, £375. The actual weight of lint cotton shipped from Lagos in the last two years was:—

1907.	1906.
3,790,345 lbs.	2,294,629 lbs.

The Commercial Intelligence Officer in reporting on the trade of the country writes:—

"Cotton is already grown for local use in most of the districts which will be served by the railway now in course of construction, and it is cultivated so cheaply that in the north I bought seed cotton at a price which would permit of its being landed at Liverpool at 3½*d.* per lb., after allowing for the cost of ginning and rail and steamer freights, &c. Even on the borders of Southern Nigeria, pure coarse country cloths, made from cotton, grown, ginned, spun, and woven locally, can be bought at a price which works out at only 10*d.* per lb. in the cloth. To anyone who has travelled through the country beyond the palm belt, and has given attention to the extraordinary low prices at which locally-grown produce and native manufactures are sold, there can be no doubt as to Nigeria having the handicap in its favour so far as labour values amongst the natives themselves are concerned.

"In the Lagos Province we have in the fifth year shipped a crop of 9,000 bales of 400 lbs., and it must not be forgotten that this has been produced in a country where there are strong competing industries which will not apply to anything like the same extent beyond Ikerun, and that only hoes and manual labour have so far been used on the farms, no draught animals being employed. In the open country which the railway is now entering, cattle and donkeys can live and thrive, and from the condition of the majority of the farms I saw in the north I consider ploughing will be feasible.

"The important points to be considered with a view to properly developing the cotton industry, are, to my mind:—

"(a) The maintenance of staple buying rates.

"(b) Careful selection of seed, giving particular attention to the improvement of indigenous varieties.

"(c) Suitable rotation of crops bringing in something which can be exported—ground-nuts for example.

"(d) Introduction of ploughs and other labour-saving implements, and

"(e) The presence on the spot of the merchants whose assorted goods will induce the natives to work."

25. The quantity and value of the export of cocoa, compared with the preceding year, are as follows:—

1907.	1906.
2,089,226 lbs.—£47,840.	1,619,987 lbs.—£27,054

Three-quarters of the cocoa exported is grown in the Western Province, the figures for the last two years being:—

	1907.	1906.
	lbs.	lbs.
Western Province ...	1,525,089	1,153,439
Central ,, ...	1,936	1,284
Eastern ,, ...	562,201	465,263

There is ample scope for expansion of this crop, as excellent land is available which could be utilised for the purpose. The export is steadily increasing. It amounted to only 687,845 lbs., valued at £11,206, in 1902.

26. The exports of maize for the last two years are as follows:—

1907.	1906.
9,891 tons—£28,521	13,074 tons—£37,386

At present the whole of the maize exported is grown in the Western Province, and although the returns show that a considerable falling off has taken place, it is said that the business done was really of a more satisfactory nature to the merchants, who refrained from buying green corn, and in consequence there was less loss of weight by 7½ per cent. in the 1907 shipments. Owing to the exceptionally dry autumn the second crop in 1907 was a failure.

27. The value of imports and exports exclusive of specie and duties in the last five years is given below:—

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1903 ...	2,128,000 ...	1,356,000 ...	4,484,000
1904 ...	2,371,000 ...	2,635,000 ...	5,006,000
1905 ...	2,592,000 ...	2,553,000 ...	5,145,000
1906 ...	2,847,000 ...	2,951,000 ...	5,797,000
1907 ...	3,839,000 ...	3,863,000 ...	7,702,000

Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations.

28. Details of the principal agricultural products have been given in connexion with exports. In addition to cotton, cocoa, and maize, rice is grown to a very small extent in the Western Province. Guinea corn is extensively grown for local consumption in the hinterland of Southern Nigeria, north of the 7th degree of latitude. Ground-nuts grow well in the northern parts of the country, and instruction is being given to the farmers in the best methods of cultivation.

29. Botanical stations exist at Oloke-meji in the Western Province, Calabar in the Eastern Province, and Onitsha on the Niger in the Central Province. Experiments are carried

out at these stations to ascertain the most suitable crops for cultivation and the best rotation possible. From these stations large numbers of plants and seeds are distributed to District Commissioners and farmers. The natives are thus readily supplied with plants and seeds suitable for cultivation, and instruction in the best methods of cultivation is obtainable.

Land Grants and General Value of Land.

30. Up to 16th October, 1905, the majority of land grants on Lagos Island—of recent years—were made under the Swamps Ordinance by "Swamp Agreements." The Government sold a portion of an unfilled swamp to a private individual on the understanding that he was to fill it up to a certain level within a fixed time with suitable materials, and, if the conditions were satisfactorily fulfilled, that he should then have a Crown grant of the area in question. The following notice was published on the date mentioned: "Intending applicants for allotments of Swamp Land in the Island of Lagos are informed that no further grants of Swamp Lands for reclamation purposes will be issued until further notice." Many of the old agreements have not been satisfactorily completed, and this system of swamp reclamation has proved a complete failure.

31. Leases of Crown lands in non-swamp localities are granted from time to time, each case being dealt with on its merits. The rent payable varies according to the locality.

32. The real value of land on Lagos Island and its neighbourhood is very difficult to estimate; so much as £2 (approximately) a square yard has been paid for land on the Marina, the principal business thoroughfare, while even in the poorer portions of the town no land is obtainable at a less rate than 9*d*. to 1*s*. per square yard. There is much speculative buying of land, and the high prices now ruling are probably in excess of the true value.

35. The Supreme Court has recently—in proceedings for the acquisition of land for public purposes taken under the Public Lands Ordinance of 1876—fixed the present value of land in various parts of the Island and its neighbourhood as follows:—Victoria Road (the main trading thoroughfare of the native population) 4*s*. per square yard; Offin Road (one of the swamp-reclaimed areas between the Marina and Carter Bridge) 1*s*. per square yard; Race Course (the better residential quarter) from 1*s*. 9*d*. to 3*s*. per square yard according to position; Ebute Metta, within 1,000 feet of the railway, 1*s*. 3*d*. per square yard; and on the east of the MacGregor Canal at from 5*d*. to 1*s*. 3*d*. per square yard.

The great difficulty in arriving at any definite value is the fact that adjoining and identical portions of land change ownership at or near the same time at widely divergent rates, and so many of the purchases are merely speculative.

Shipping.

34. The following statement shows the steamers and sailing vessels inwards and outwards compared with the previous year:—

Flag.	Entered.				Cleared.			
	1906.		1907.		1906.		1907.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Steam:—								
British	298	504,865	308	505,437	261	443,993	296	484,979
Foreign	177	209,932	166	206,477	181	213,762	160	197,634
Sail:—								
British	3	1,341	2	670	3	1,272	3	1,110
Foreign	1	6	—	—	1	6	—	—
Total	479	716,144	476	712,584	446	659,033	459	683,723

It is not possible to make any further comparison owing to the amalgamation of Lagos with the Southern Nigeria Protectorate in 1906, as ships which called at Lagos also called in some cases at the river ports, and a combination of the statistics of the two places would give a most inaccurate result. The carrying trade is practically divided among British and German ships.

35. The following statement shows the value of the trade carried during the year, compared with the preceding year:—

—	Southern Nigeria.				Porto Novo.			
	1906.		1907.		1906.		1907.	
	British.	Foreign.	British	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Entered ..	2,779,926	368,343	3,923,031	515,875	25,842	10,351	46,291	6,432
Cleared ..	2,400,401	351,017	3,232,395	970,309	40,654	123,409	51,082	111,618
Total ..	5,180,327	1,119,360	7,155,426	1,486,184	66,496	133,760	97,373	118,050

British shipping has captured the greater portion of the increased trade. The trade with Germany during the year totalled £2,100,000, whereas the value of trade carried in foreign ships amounted to £1,486,000 only.

LEGISLATION.

36. The legislation of the year was in the main confined to amendments of existing laws, and the consolidation of the two systems in force in Lagos and in the old Protectorate of Southern Nigeria.

37. The subjects of new legislation include the constitution of lunatic asylums, the institution of a Volunteer Force, the surrender of fugitive criminals from the Protectorate, and the regulation of mining for oil.

38. The Lunatic Asylum Ordinance has been passed for the purpose of providing for the detention and proper treatment of lunatics in the Colony and Protectorate. It provides for the establishment of asylums, the appointment of officers and visitors, the adjudication of persons as lunatics, the discharge of lunatics, and the disposal of lunatics' property; it sets forth the offences, and gives the Governor power to make rules. The Fugitive Criminal Surrender Ordinance provides for the surrender of fugitive offenders between Southern Nigeria and the possessions of foreign Powers in West Africa. The Ordinance regulates the procedure under which criminals may be surrendered, and sets forth the list of crimes for which surrender is permissible. The Volunteer Ordinance was passed in contemplation of the formation of a Volunteer Force in the Colony. The Ordinance provides for the organization of the force, the occasions when the force can be called out for actual military service, its discipline, and miscellaneous matters as to its property, arms, and other matters. The Mining Regulation (Oil) Ordinances of 1907 regulate the raising, winning, and getting of mineral oils in the Colony and Protectorate.

EDUCATION.

Primary Education and Number of Schools.

39. The course of primary education is according to a syllabus of subjects including the highest Standard prescribed in the English Education Code for elementary schools. But the revised syllabus, which it is hoped will shortly come into force with the new Education Code of the Colony, makes special provision for the teaching of English as a living language. Throughout the schools the elementary matters of instruction received adequate attention.

40. The schools administered under the supervision of the Education Department are of two classes, namely, Government and Assisted schools; to the latter are awarded grants in aid on inspection and examination. The number of Government schools at the end of the year was 6 in the Western Province, 18 in the Central, and 16 in the Eastern, making a total of 40. The number of assisted schools was 36 in the Western, 12 in the Central, and 25 in the Eastern, making a total of 73. The total number of schools under the supervision of the Department was therefore 113.

41. The children under instruction in Government schools were: in the Western Province, 514 boys and 31 girls—total 545, with an average attendance of 394; in the Central Province, 1,073 boys and 145 girls—total 1,218, with an average attendance of 825; in the Eastern Province, 1,036 boys and 39 girls—total 1,075, with an average attendance of 712. The total enrolment of the Government schools in the three provinces was therefore 2,838, and the average attendance 1,931.

42. In the assisted schools the number under instruction was: in the Western Province, 3,681 boys and 1,437 girls—total 5,118, with an average attendance of 2,732; in the Central Province, 1,225 boys and 99 girls—total 1,324, with an average attendance of 1,062; in the Eastern Province, 2,815 boys and 776 girls—total 3,591, with an average attendance of 2,259. The total enrolment of the assisted schools was therefore 10,033, and the average attendance 6,035.

43. It will thus be seen that at the end of the year the total enrolment in Government and assisted schools was, 12,871, and the average attendance 8,984.

44. Besides the schools included in the above totals there is a large number of mission and private schools in each of the provinces which either have not sought, or, on account of inability to comply with the Code, have not obtained financial assistance from the Government. It may also be mentioned that the Education Law of the Colony does not apply to the schools in the interior of the Western Province.

45. Moslem schools exist in the Western Province, and the children in regular attendance numbered about 2,500. The instruction is confined to learning by heart and copying portions of the Koran, and the schools are generally held in the teacher's house or in the open street.

46. What are locally known as "secondary" schools are, strictly speaking, higher grade elementary schools containing classes in which instruction is given in the subjects of the higher Standards of the Education Code, together with a somewhat enlarged curriculum of literary or technical subjects. The fees in these secondary schools are higher, and the teachers are better qualified than those in the elementary schools. The extra subjects taught include a little Latin, Greek, and French, the more elementary parts of algebra and geometry, and such commercial subjects as book-keeping, shorthand, and typewriting.

47. In the Central Province small gardens are attached to 10 Government and 2 assisted schools, and workshops for instruction in carpentry to 6 Government and 1 assisted schools. Similar workshops are also attached to 2 schools in the Eastern Province. All these schools are elementary.

48. Technical departments are also provided in connexion with some of the secondary schools for boys and girls in the Western and Eastern Provinces. There are two boys' schools thus provided: the Government boys' school at Bonny and the Hope-Waddell Institute of the United Free Church of Scotland Mission in Calabar. The three girls' schools thus provided are all at Lagos; two are in connexion with the Roman Catholic Mission, and the third is connected with the Church Missionary Society. In the boys' schools the course comprises wood-sawing, carpentry, joinery, coopering, engineering, telegraphy, printing, tailoring, and also a little gardening. In the girls' schools domestic economy is taught in its various branches, plain needlework, washing and ironing, baking of bread, preparation of native foodstuffs, fancy needlework, and instruction in native industries of any kind according to an approved scheme.

49. Two schools have also been opened at Onitsha in the Central Province, one by the Bishop of Western Equatorial Africa and the other by the Roman Catholic Mission. In these schools all the pupils are really apprentices to some trade or other. They are systematically and practically taught their trade by competent teachers and devote their whole time thereto. At the end of the year the Bishop's school had 32 apprentices under training, including 19 carpenters, 11 sawyers, and 2 turners. This institution has already supplied well-trained apprentices to the Public Works Department. The school itself has also done a large amount of useful work for the Government in the shape of house fittings and furniture made for quarters and offices. At the Roman Catholic Onitsha school 21 apprentices received instruction in carpentry, bricklaying, and joinery throughout the year.

50. In the Western Province two schools for boys and girls have been established by the Roman Catholic Mission at the Topo settlement. Nearly the whole of the time of the boys is devoted to farming, gardening, and cattle-rearing; and the girls are taught the more practical branches of domestic economy. A strong feature of the farming is the cultivation of the cocoanut and the manufacture of copra, large shipments of which are made to France.

51. The manual work introduced in the elementary schools has produced under good direction a remarkable effect on the habit of attention and order and on the physical vigour of the children generally, apart from the industrial and economic results of the instruction given, more especially in backward districts. It should be remembered that some of the elementary schools have been established in places where nothing was previously known of even the rudiments of the arts of carpentry, wood-sawing, or bricklaying. In many parts of the country the first village carpenter or the first village bricklayer has been trained in the industrial department of the village school.

In addition to the technical instruction given in schools large numbers of apprentices are trained in the Government workships of the Railway, Marine, and Public Works Departments as fitters, joiners, carpenters, builders, boat builders, engine drivers, &c., &c.; and scholarships are given to the best pupils from the schools.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.

52. At the Lagos Hospital 1,251 native and 103 European patients were treated as in-patients, and 6,043 (natives) were treated in the out-patient department. 205 operations were performed.

53. The daily average number of Europeans in ward was 4, being nearly double what it was three years ago. The local death-rate of Europeans admitted was 2·9 per cent. The death-rate among natives admitted was 5·1 per cent.

54. At Calabar, in the European Hospital, 107 patients were treated, and there were three deaths. In the Native Hospital 1,058 were treated, of whom 38 died. Cases numbering 4,235 were treated in the out-patient department.

55. European nurses are in attendance at these hospitals. Dispensaries are established in various parts of Lagos Town, while there is a Government Dispensary at all the important stations.

Asylums.

56. The leper asylums at Onitsha, in the Central Province, and at Yaba, near Lagos, afforded refuge to an average of 39 patients.

57. A lunatic asylum has been opened at Yaba, in which 21 patients were housed at the end of the year. There is also a criminal lunatic asylum at Calabar.

Savings Bank.

58. During the year 1907 the operations of the Savings Bank were confined to the town of Lagos and were carried on under the control of the Financial Commissioner; but from the 1st January, 1908, the management has been transferred to the Post Office, and the advantages of this institution extended to the principal stations of the Colony and Protectorate.

59. Sums deposited in the bank during the year amounted to £16,967 as against £17,469 in 1906—a decrease of £502; and withdrawals to £14,169 as against £14,638 in 1906—a decrease of £469.

60. The Savings Bank held a total of £30,813 for 2,668 depositors on 31st December, 1907, as against £28,015 which stood to the credit of 2,414 depositors on 31st December, 1906 —an increase of £2,798.

61. A total sum of £24,350 has been invested by the Crown Agents for the Colonies in securities approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies on behalf of the Savings Bank. Interest on this sum on 31st December, 1907, amounted to £805, which has been credited to general revenue.

62. Interest at 2½ per cent. per annum computed on the various amounts deposited during the year aggregated £696, of which a sum of £19 was paid to depositors who closed their accounts, the difference, viz., £677, being added to capital in favour of the remaining depositors. The amount realised by interest on invested Savings Bank funds was £805, the difference thus being £109 in favour of the bank.

63. The increase in the number of depositors was 254, while the accounts closed during the year numbered 129.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

64. The authorised establishment on 31st December, 1907, was 1,200, an increase of 116 on the preceding year; and the actual strength was 1,122, consisting of:—

European staff	10
Native staff	12
Clerks, &c.	10
Rank and file	1,090
	1,122

The force was allocated as follows:—

—	Western Province.	Central Province.	Eastern Province.	Total.
Establishment ...	547	273	380	1,200
Actual strength ...	536	247	339	1,122

The cause of this deficiency in establishment was the fact that a reduction in establishment to come into force from 1st January, 1908, of 85 constables, hitherto employed as prison guards, had been determined on, the duties of prison guards being in future undertaken by prison officers.

65. Police were for the first time sent to Oban and Okigwi, two newly-formed districts in the Eastern Province. In the Western Province 16 constables proceeded to Ilesha and relieved a detachment of the Southern Nigeria Regiment.

66. The force are armed with the Martini-Enfield carbine ·303.

Prisons.

67. There are 36 prisons in Southern Nigeria, and in 1907 there were 13,827 prisoners. The chief prisons are at Lagos and Calabar, under the direct supervision of European prison officials; in the other districts the political officers are responsible for superintending the work of the prisons.

68. An outbreak of beri-beri occurred in the Calabar prison, but the spread of the disease was stopped by the transfer of the prisoners to another station. A revision of the prison diets has been made with a view to supplying prisoners with the food to which they are accustomed when free. Instructions have been given by the medical authorities to boil the drinking water.

69. The prisoners are engaged on sanitary work, and clearing Government grounds and keeping them in order. Some industrial work has been carried out, the cash earnings amounting to £355.

Criminal Statistics.

70. The number of persons apprehended or summoned before all the Courts was 5,390, of whom 4,384 were convicted and 1,006 discharged.

—	Western Province.	Central Province.	Eastern Province.	Total.
Convicted	1,968	526	1,890	4,384
Discharged	387	175	444	1,006
Total ...	2,355	701	2,334	5,390

71. The number of offences dealt with was 3,812, of which 2,064 were indictable and 1,748 non-indictable. Out of the 3,812 cases dealt with, 2,924 resulted in convictions, 801 in acquittals; 5 prisoners were remanded; 13 died before trial; and 69 cases, of which the results are not yet reported, were committed to Assizes.

72. The estimated value (by complainants) of property stolen was £3,118, of which £1,052 was recovered; but the valuation often proved to be exaggerated, and not infrequently reports received of loss were found on examination to be purely hypothetical.

73. The number of "offences against the person" was 1,101, resulting in 716 convictions. The most serious were murder (113) and slave-dealing (292).

74. The number of "offences against property" was 1,246, of which 995 were proved. The most serious were larceny and receiving (1,027) and false pretences (67).

VITAL STATISTICS.

75. The estimated native population of Lagos in 1907 was 57,000 and the European population 400, as compared with 39,387 natives in 1891 and an estimated European population of 100. A census of the population of Southern Nigeria has never been taken; but officers acquainted with various parts of the hinterland have formed estimates of the population, and the result works out at 6,000,000 for the whole country, distributed as follows:—

Western Province	...	...	2,200,000
Eastern Province	...	...	2,200,000
Central Province	...	...	1,600,000

General State of Public Health.

76. The general state of health on the whole was as good as in the preceding year so far as Europeans are concerned; regarding natives, there are no reliable statistics except in Lagos Town, where the death-rate is recorded at 39·8 a thousand against 48·5 in the preceding year.

77. In Lagos there was no death among European officials from malaria or blackwater fever, while among other European residents 1 death from malaria occurred as compared with 5 from malaria and 5 from blackwater in 1906. Seven Europeans died in the Western Province compared with 15 in 1906.

78. In the Central Province there were 3 deaths among officials and 6 among non-officials from a population of 301 Europeans, as compared with 6 deaths among officials and 3 deaths among non-officials from a population of 273 in 1906.

79. In the Eastern Province 2 officials and 3 non-officials died, compared with 3 and 6 respectively in the preceding year.

Sanitation and Antimalaria Work.

80. The clearing of bush around the settlements and the reclamation of swamp land in the neighbourhood of the various stations steadily continued, special attention being given to the reclamation of the unwholesome swamp areas in Lagos town.

81. A sewage disposal system for Lagos town was inaugurated consisting of the use of dry-earth-pans, with depôts in various places for the receipt of pans and issue of earth. From the depôts the sewage is conveyed away by rail. Throughout the country sewage disposal is, on the whole, satisfactory, even in the small settlements, so far as the European quarters are concerned, and in the larger centres the natives are being taught cleanliness and obedience to sanitary demands in this respect, public latrines being provided. The system in vogue, as in Lagos, is the dry-earth-pan, with daily burial of the sewage in trenches in suitable areas, or, in some places, the emptying of the pans into the sea, or central current of the large rivers near their mouths.

82. A scheme of water supply for Lagos town is receiving consideration. At Calabar the water supply is satisfactory and allows of the abolition of tanks and gutters. Tanks and wells supply the water requirements of the country generally, but at a few stations there is good spring water.

83. The main features of the antimalaria work carried out at all stations are:—

Use of quinine as a prophylactic;
Destruction of mosquito breeding grounds and larvæ;
Use of kerosine oil for collections of water which cannot otherwise be treated;
Clearing of bush;
Filling of swamp land and surface depressions;
Use of anti-mosquito wire-gauze for rooms and houses; and
The use of quinine prophylaxis among natives, which is gradually spreading.

Climate.

84. At the Lagos Observatory the mean temperature was 80·4°; the highest shade temperature was 96° in February, and the lowest 68° in August.

85. The rainfall at stations on the coast or at the mouths of the various rivers is heavier than in the up-country districts. More rain fell at Opobo than at any other station, the rainfall there totalling 216·46″. The lowest rainfall was at Shaki, where only 32·82″ fell in the year. The rainfall at provincial headquarters was: Lagos, 79·46″; Calabar, 129·68″; Warri, 87·58″.

86. The prevailing breeze blows from south to south-west, but during the harmattan, from the end of November to the beginning of February, a breeze blows in the early morning from a north-easterly direction.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SYSTEM.

87. There has been a general increase in postal business conducted during the year under review compared with previous years, due to the growth of commerce and the further development of the country.

88. An increase of over 500,000 is shown in the number of articles, exclusive of parcels, passing through the post, and of 22,414 in the number of parcels dealt with, while the number of articles registered and insured has also increased.

89. Money Order business shows a falling off of £6,892, but this decrease is due to the extension of the British Postal Order system. British Postal Orders are now sold and paid at every station at which there is a District Commissioner or other responsible officer, so that against the decrease in Money Order business should be set the increase for the year under review of £22,554 in Postal Order business.

90. In the map accompanying the report the telegraph lines are shown. The principal districts of the country are now in telegraphic communication with Lagos and Bonny, where the African Direct Telegraph Company are established.

MILITARY.

91. The Southern Nigeria Regiment of the West African Frontier Force took part in the following operations during 1907:—

Ishinkwa Patrol, from 2nd to 12th January.
Uruala Patrol, from 17th to 25th February.
Aka Ogoni Patrol, from 14th January to 2nd March.
Ikot Ekpene Patrol, from 15th February to 11th March.
Etchi and Ngor Patrol, from 25th July to 20th September.
Ntarappu Ishianjo Patrol, in which Captain E. de H. Smith, who commanded, was fatally wounded.

92. A Volunteer Force was established in the year under review.

MEANS OF COMMUNICATION.

Railway.

93. The gross revenue of the Lagos Railway for the year amounted to £139,747, the working expenses to £74,435, and the net revenue to £65,312. The capital cost of the line in operation during 1907 cannot be exactly determined, as construction to Oshogbo was going on during the whole year. The approximate cost may, however, be placed at £1,640,000. On this sum the interest at 3½ per cent. amounts to £57,400, and as the net revenue was £65,304, the railway yielded a profit of nearly £8,000 after paying all expenses. This result, achieved for the first time since the railway was opened in 1901, is satisfactory.

94. The number of passengers carried in 1907 was 188,419, at a charge of £24,872, compared with 125,584 carried in the preceding year at a charge of £17,401. Taking into consideration the increase caused by the extension, the Iddo-Ibadan passenger traffic increased by 14,000, or 11 per cent. on 1906 traffic.

95. The tonnage of goods conveyed was 82,900, and the income derived therefrom £107,224, compared with 55,784 tons in the preceding year producing £62,957.

96. The increased business done is due to the opening of the Iwo-Oshogbo section, and to the Ibadan-Iwo section being only opened in October, 1906, and therefore not contributing largely to the revenue obtained in that year. The actual increase of local goods traffic on the Iddo-Ibadan section was worth £8,737.

Roads.

97. The construction of railway feeder roads has been actively carried on in the northern districts of the Western Province; and a road has been commenced with the object of establishing road communication between the Marine Works at Apapa, the railway, and Lagos. The metalling of Lagos town roads has been continued.

98. In the Central Province road construction was carried on with the usual energy in all the districts. On the road connecting Warri, Sapele, and Benin City 38 miles of earthworks were completed. The road connecting Onitsha with Awka, a sub-district 23 miles inland, was finished. A road between Onitsha and Oguta has also been commenced; and six miles of a cart road connecting Asaba with Okpanam (9 miles), where lignite deposits are known to exist, have been completed.

99. In the Eastern Province the construction of a road connecting Calabar with Uwet, on the Calabar River, and Itu on the Cross River, and extending thence to Ikot Ekpene, has been continued. The latter road will ultimately be continued from Ikot Ekpene to Awka, and so establish a main trunk road between the Niger and the Cross Rivers. Road construction was carried on in all the districts.

Waterways.

100. The work of waterway clearing has continued steadily throughout the year. In the Eastern Province the River Imo and its tributaries the Otaminie and the Azuminie were cleared and opened up. The Osse River, in the Benin City district, was cleared for canoe traffic and the passage of logs from the neighbouring timber concessions. The waterways between Benin River and Lagos were kept clear of sudd blocks to allow the passage of timber rafts and the free passage of the river.

101. During the year a canal was cut connecting the Ologi Creek and Benin River and having its entrance just below Koko town, one of the principal timber ports in the Central Province. The canal, which is three-quarters of a mile in length, is 20 feet wide, and the depth is 2 feet, so that logs from the timber concessions of the Benin country can be easily floated through. A journey of 16 miles down the Ologi Creek is thereby saved.

Marine Services.

102. In the Western Province there are two services:

(i) Lagos—Porto Novo Service.—A mail and passenger service run weekly from Lagos to Porto Novo and back. The number of passengers carried was 2,785, an increase of 880 on the previous year.

(ii) Lagos—Siluko.—A similar service to the above. The number of passengers carried was 2,701, an increase of 659 on the previous year. Its importance lies in the fact that a weekly mail service is maintained between Lagos and the timber concession and bitumen district.

103. In the Central Province the Niger Transport Service was carried out by Southern Nigeria until May, when it was handed over to Northern Nigeria, that Administration becoming responsible for serving the demands of both Northern and Southern Nigeria.

104. In the Eastern Province the transport service on the Cross River has worked well during the year. During the

wet season all launches and lighters were employed to the fullest capacity, and in many cases it was difficult to provide sufficient transport.

105. The dry season service on the Cross River is maintained by the motor canoes "Spider" and "Sandfly"; and regular communication with the up-river stations is thus assured.

106. A mail passenger and general transport service is run by launches between Bonny and Akassa, calling at Bakana, Buguma, Degema, and Brass, the chief ports along the route. There is a similar service between Bonny and Opobo. Regular communication is thus maintained between all stations and the homeward and outward mail steamers calling at Bonny.

The services are much appreciated by the public to whom they are a great convenience.

Oyo—Ibadan Motor Service.

107. Considerable improvement has taken place in the working of this service, which, although not directly remunerative, is much more convenient and expeditious than head porterage, and is materially assisting in developing the trade of Oyo. In addition cheaper and better transport has been available for the carrying of Government material to the Oyo district, releasing for agricultural pursuits natives who would otherwise be employed as carriers by the Government and the commercial community.

PUBLIC WORKS.

108. In Lagos the first and second wings of the Public Offices were completed and at once occupied.

Quarters for six European officials and two rest-houses were completed, in addition to various minor works.

109. In the Central Province the steamer pier at Forcados was nearly completed at the end of the year. Three hundred acres have been laid out at this station in roads and plots, with tidal drains cut to take off all surface water, and the whole place has been thoroughly cleared.

110. Warri has been thoroughly cleared; bungalows have been erected, gardens and grounds laid out, and much drainage work done.

111. At Onitsha a European hospital has been erected and several minor works carried out.

112. In the Eastern Province the principal work has been the continuation of the drainage and sanitation scheme for

Duke Town, consisting of road formation and drain construction throughout the town.

IMPORTANT EVENTS.

113. The Iwo-Oshogbo section of the railway, 30 miles in length, was opened for public traffic at the end of April, 1907, bringing the length of open lines up to 186 miles from Lagos. The work of extension to Ilorin, 62 miles from Oshogbo, was in progress during the year; and, in August, the sanction of the Secretary of State was received to the further construction of the railway to Zungeru, whence a junction is to be effected with the Baro-Kano line now being built by the Government of Northern Nigeria. The completed line will extend to approximately 460 miles from Lagos. The Secretary of State's sanction to the expenditure of £40,000 was received towards the close of the year for increased facilities in the way of workshops, running sheds, traffic sidings, &c., at Ebute Metta, the railway headquarters. These extensions are necessary, as the present arrangements only suffice for the Iddo-Ibadan section.

114. At the end of May, 1907, the steam-dredger "Egerton" arrived at Lagos, and dredging operations on the bar commenced. On 28th July a direct channel on which the dredger was working was brought into use; and this channel having kept open, the draught for vessels was increased from 10 feet to 10 feet 6 inches on 31st December, and at the time of writing is 13 feet.

115. There have been no important changes in the civil establishment of the Colony during the year 1907. His Excellency Sir Walter Egerton, K.C.M.G., was absent on leave from 14th May to 27th October, and during that period Mr. J. J. Thorburn, C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor and Colonial Secretary, administered the Government. Mr. F. S. James, C.M.G., Provincial Commissioner, acted as Colonial Secretary from 30th March to 7th May, during Mr. Thorburn's absence on a sick trip, and from 14th May to 27th October, while the latter acted as Governor.

116. The following officers were in charge of the Eastern and Central Provinces during the year, 1907:—

Eastern Province.

Mr. H. Bedwell. 1st January to 14th May.
Mr. H. A. Simpson-Gray. 15th May to 23rd May.
Lieutenant H. A. Child, R.N. 24th May to 6th June.
Mr. W. F. W. Fosbery, C.M.G. 7th June to 31st December.

Central Province.

Mr. F. S. James, C.M.G. 1st January to 29th March.
Mr. R. Roberts. 30th March to 17th June.
Mr. H. Bedwell. 18th June to 31st December.

The Provincial Commissioner, Western Province, was appointed His Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Colony of Dahomey and its Dependencies on 15th October, 1907.

FUTURE PROSPECTS OF TRADE.

117. Under ordinary conditions the expansion of trade in Southern Nigeria must continue for many years. The factors which have had so favourable an effect on the trade of the year under review will continue to operate towards developing the resources of the country. It has been shown that the palm-kernel trade of the Eastern and Central Provinces is capable of yielding at least 80,000 tons more kernels in the districts in which trade is at present carried on, and further development is to be expected from the newly-controlled districts. As the influence of the middleman over the people of what are now the interior markets is replaced by more direct trade between the merchants and the consumers, a further impetus will be given to trade. Improved transport facilities and means of communication will set free a large number of people now engaged in carrying head loads and as paddlers in canoes, a matter of great importance in the present comparatively undeveloped state of the country. At present the operations of the trading companies are confined to the banks of the rivers, and practically the whole transport to the factories is by head load or canoes under native supervision with little co-operation.

118. There are large tracts of land in Southern Nigeria suitable for rubber and cocoa-growing, and plantations of these products have already been started.

119. In the Western Province there is some likelihood that in the country between Lagos and Benin River mineral oil will be found in paying quantities, and oil-boring operations are being carried out by the Nigeria Bitumen Corporation, who have received financial assistance in the shape of a loan from the Government. In this province agriculture has rapidly developed and suitable land is available for the cultivation of cocoa, maize, and cotton, which are being actively grown for export. The extension of the railway and the construction of feeder roads are opening up a country in which cotton has for many years been grown for local use. Among the minor industries to be developed in the northern districts ground-nuts and shea produce may be mentioned.

120. The Commercial Intelligence Officer has reported as follows on the prospects of the northern trade:—"In touching upon the possibilities of expansion in the near future, perhaps the most important factor to be noted is the rapid extension of the Lagos Railway, which is now entering the Ilorin Province of Northern Nigeria on its way to join the Baro-Kano line near Zungeru. Having travelled over a good portion of the country which will feed the Oshogbo-Ilorin section of the railway, I am of the opinion, as already indicated, that business on a large scale may be looked for within the next few years from that district as the outcome of agricultural development, and that an important cash trade will soon be done at Ilorin town. After Ilorin, a matter for the early consideration of the merchants will be as to the desirability of opening up at Jebba, where the railway reaches the Niger. Although factories at Jebba are certain to stimulate trade in the Borgu and Kontagora Provinces, it should be remembered that those districts of Northern Nigeria are at present sparsely populated, and that the navigation of the river above Jebba and near Boussa is very difficult. Consequently the immediate outlook for that station as a trading centre is not so bright as a glance at the map would appear to indicate. At the same time it would seem probable that there would be a good opening there for some of the Lagos firms which are not over eager for immediate profits, and that, in addition to such produce as the Borgu and Kontagora people can work, a fair trade from the Sokoto Province should find its way to Jebba.

"Looking to the more distant future when—within five years it is hoped—Lagos will be in communication with Kano by rail, an enormous field in the Upper Zaria and Kano Provinces will be accessible to our merchants. From the Ilorin Province up to Zaria town the population on the railway route is very scanty, but beyond there is a dense population—more than that of the whole of the Western Province of Southern Nigeria—and a very large business indeed may in the course of a few years from the opening of the line be reasonably expected from the northern section of the railway. Superficially it may be thought that the Kano trade will be done *viâ* Baro and the Niger, and I agree in thinking that cheap produce—shea-nuts, ground-nuts, salt, &c.—will probably be worked by river, but I believe that the bulk of the trade in Manchester and other European goods will pass through Lagos, and that it is not improbable that a large proportion of down freights in the way of raw cotton will also come this way, for it must be remembered that the cotton crops are gathered at a time when the Niger is not in flood. At the same time I think the Lagos produce merchants following the line will later on need to give consideration to the idea of having forwarding depôts at Baro to deal with coarse produce and salt. It will be remembered that the important trade centre of Bida lies between Baro and the junction of the Lagos Railway with the Baro-Kano line.

"In connection with this distant trade, some reference may be made here to the Soudan skin export business from the Lagos Province. Ten years ago this did not exist from Lagos, but in 1907 £12,700 was contributed to the export total, a comparatively insignificant sum, but one which, by the rate of progress seen during the last four or five years, gives good promise for the future, although the trade has its limitations at about £50,000 per annum. The following table shows the value of skins and hides exported from the Western Province only:—

	£
1904	674
1905	1,530
1906	3,382
1907	12,702

The total shipments from the whole of Southern Nigeria in 1906 and 1907 were valued at £3,462 and £12,937, respectively, which indicates how the Hausa caravan people prefer to travel overland to Lagos rather than dispose of their skins at trading stations on the Niger, where limited assortments of goods are stocked. Formerly the skin trade of Kano and other northern centres went almost entirely across the desert to Tripoli, which is three times as far from Kano as Lagos. In addition to the total exports from Southern Nigeria quoted, there was a considerable business done between Kano and London in these skins by parcel post. So far as Lagos is concerned it must be understood that what was aimed at all along was not so much the profits resulting directly from the skin exports, as the return trade in European goods and especially the introduction of Lagos qualities into the markets in the upper parts of Northern Nigeria. The business has been the means of bringing down very considerable numbers of Hausa caravans in addition to the ordinary potash and live-stock caravans, and it may fairly be claimed that good work has been done in the way of convincing the northern natives of the value of Lagos as a great and free market.

* * * * * *

"Amongst the potentialities of agricultural development in the upper parts of Nigeria which will be served by the Kano Railway, should be numbered wheat and tobacco in addition to cotton and ground-nuts. Possibly dye-stuffs may also contribute. All are now cultivated to some extent, and in the Katsena sub-province of Kano I saw some really fine farms of tobacco and so-called indigo. Wheat was to be had at Zaria, Kano, Katsena, and Sokoto, but does not appear to be largely grown at present, the consumption being apparently confined to the ruling native classes, and to the Europeans who have bread made from the wheat-meal."

121. The climate of Southern Nigeria is unsuited to, and unhealthy for, Europeans. In a few of the up-country stations

the climate is not so unhealthy as in the swamp districts, but the conditions of living are difficult, and generally those Europeans who remain in Southern Nigeria for periods in excess of twelve months at a time suffer in health. With reasonable precautions Europeans can remain twelve months at a time in most districts without suffering evil effects to any great extent from the climate.

122. The majority of the Europeans in Southern Nigeria who are not in Government service are employed by the various companies which are established in the country for the purpose of trade, timber-working, &c. There is a fair supply of native talent to meet the demands for clerical work and skilled labour.

123. The cost of living for Europeans varies, but for foremen of works, telegraph inspectors, &c., the average cost is 5*s*. a day. To the native labourer the cost of living nowhere exceeds 3*d*. a day. The cost of unskilled labour varies from 6*d*. to 1*s*. a day. Where native skilled labour is employed wages vary from £2 to £6 a month. Blacksmiths, bricklayers, carpenters, painters, coopers, and engine drivers are paid from £4 to £6 a month. Fitters, moulders, and tinsmiths are paid somewhat less. Owing to the demand for labour on account of the railway and other works wages are increasing.

124. There is an ample field for the investment of capital in the palm oil and kernel trade of Southern Nigeria, especially in the neighbourhood of the Cross and the Imo Rivers. The establishment of rubber plantations affords another field for the investment of capital, as there are large tracts of country admirably suited for growing rubber. Lands exist suitable for growing cotton, cocoa, maize, ground-nuts and other agricultural products requiring capital for their development. These areas are well populated. In the timber industry another field is open to the capitalist.

Social Condition of the People.

125. In the Western Province there has been little disturbance during the year. At Ibadan, the chief town in the northern portion of the province, there was some restlessness which ended in the resignation at the end of the year of the late Bale—a weak ruler who had lost the confidence of his people. The establishment of the capital of Southern Nigeria at Lagos has added considerably to the wealth of the Yoruba people. In a portion of the swamp country between Lagos and Benin River, the Ikales, a tribe nearly akin to the Binis, drove out their principal chief, the Bale of Igbotako, and refused to receive the District Commissioner. The people are of a low type and indulge in barbarous practices. The matter has now been settled, and for a time a Commissioner will be stationed in the immediate neighbourhood to assist the Bale

in the reforms which he is anxious to introduce for the good of his people.

126. In the Central Province no disturbances of any importance have occurred, the good work done and constant travelling by the District Officers having induced the natives of the province to place more confidence in the Government. Inter-tribal disputes have been unknown during the year, a fact bearing eloquent testimony to the changed condition of native affairs as far as this province is concerned.

127. In the Eastern Province progress has been made during the year in extending the influence of the Government in areas hitherto unoccupied and in the pacification of disturbed areas. The Provincial Commissioner reports as follows on the improved conditions brought about during the year in the various districts:—"In the Ibibio country, which a few years ago was closed to all comers, white or black, and where inter-tribal warfare existed almost between every neighbouring town, with all the other evils which such a state brought, the present situation is most promising. Barbarous customs, such as cannibalism, human sacrifice, twin-killing, slave dealing, &c., are no longer openly indulged in, and if they are practised the offenders are sure to be detected and brought to justice. Disputes are settled in Court instead of by matchets and guns. Roads extend in all directions and trade has largely increased.

"A remarkable transformation has also been brought about in the country administered by the officer at Omoduru, where conditions similar to those mentioned above prevailed when the country was occupied in 1906. Offences against human life are now rare and slave-dealing is largely on the decline, notwithstanding the efforts of the Aros, who overrun the northern and eastern portions of this district and exercise a pernicious influence over the natives, spreading evil reports as to the intentions of the Government and doing all in their power to prevent the peaceful penetration of the country by Government officers.

"These Aros are continually seizing and selling people, and are most difficult to find out, as they have a powerful hold over the natives, who are afraid to give evidence against them. They cause the same trouble in and around Abakaliki.

"In Ahoada district strides have been made in opening up the Ekpaffia country to trade and gaining the confidence of the natives. By tactful and careful handling, these people have been gradually brought under control, but are still very uncivilized and find it hard to drop old customs such as trial by ordeal, witchcraft, &c., but already appreciate justice administered through the Native Courts which have been established.

"Excellent progress has been made in the Bende district in improving relations between the Government and the natives

and in bringing the country to the south-west and north-west under control. In this district also the Aros give much trouble by their favourite pastime, slave-dealing.

"Much good work has been done from the station at Abakaliki, where complex questions caused by disputes over land boundaries between the Ezzas and Ezzis have had to be dealt with. The Ezzas are the predominant tribe, and, prior to the advent of the Government, absorbed many miles of the country belonging to their neighbours at the expense of continual warfare. Matters have been greatly improved, and although the land question is still a sore point with the Ezzis, the foundation of friendly relations has been well laid."

GENERAL CONDITION OF THE COLONY AND PROTECTORATE.

128. Progress in the social condition of the people and expansion in the trade of the country have been remarkable during the year under review. There has been no relaxation in the efforts of Government to make remote districts easily accessible, improve the means of communication and transport, promote friendly intercourse between the natives of various tribes, and to suppress the slavery, cannibalism, and barbarous practices of the natives of the interior districts. The improvements in the means of communication, besides resulting in an increased trade, have tended to establish peace and good order in the remote districts of the country and to lessen the difficulties of administration.

129. The financial position of the country has been considerable strengthened during the year. The railway has been extended, more roads have been constructed, preparations for opening Lagos harbour have been made, and extensive public works have been carried out during the year. The revenue of the Colony amounts to £1,460,000, and the public debt on 31st December, 1907, amounted to £2,000,000 only.

The surplus balance has increased in amount from £475,500 to £632,000. There is practically no direct taxation, more than eight-tenths of the revenue being derived from customs duties. The free list has been much increased and most necessary articles of general consumption are now admitted free of duty. One-tenth of the revenue is made up of railway receipts. Rapid expansion in trade continues. The development of agriculture during the year has been most marked, especially in the Western Province. Education is steadfastly progressing, though the lack of proper native teachers is still felt. The transfer of the Savings Bank from the control of the

Financial Commissioner to the Post Office and its extension to the principal towns in the country will be of benefit to the community as soon as the natives realize the advantages afforded. Constant effort is being made by Government to improve the sanitation of the towns, and the natives are beginning to understand the benefits thereby accruing to themselves. In Lagos there has been some difficulty in securing sites for European residences, and although there was perturbation among the natives at the acquisition of the land required for administrative purposes, the ample awards given for the properties affected cannot fail to have satisfied even the most discontented. Improvements in the conditions of life in Lagos and the principal centres of the Colony are remarkable. Substantial houses and shops are being erected by both Europeans and natives; the principal roads are being improved, and wheeled traffic is gradually increasing. Four years ago there were one or two bicycles in use in Lagos; now-a-days there are thousands used throughout the country. There is no indication of any discontinuance of the progress in commerce and improvement in the social condition of the people—marked features in the condition of the Colony during the last few years and more especially during the year under review.

130. A map of Southern Nigeria, together with a chart showing the expansion of Southern Nigeria, from 1900 to 1907, and a statement of the importation of spirits during the last five years, is included with this report. I also attach a statement of the economic investigations conducted on behalf of the Colony at the Imperial Institute during the year 1907.

F. S. JAMES,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Secretariat, Lagos,
7th September, 1908.

APPENDIX.

I.

Economic Investigations conducted at the Imperial Institute during the year 1907 for the Colony of Southern Nigeria.

Reports from the Imperial Institute have been made to the Government of Southern Nigeria on the following subjects, on the basis of investigations conducted in the Scientific and Technical Department, followed, when necessary, by technical trials by manufacturers and commercial experts. In many cases recommendations have been made as to the further action which is required in the Colony in order to develop the production of those materials for which it is probable that there would be a satisfactory commercial demand.

Rubber.

Two specimens of Funtumia rubber were forwarded for examination, but proved to be too small for analysis. Very satisfactory commercial valuations were, however, obtained.

The latex from a species of Mimusops, probably *M. Djave*, has been investigated. The product obtained on coagulation is of resinous character and would have very little commercial value.

Timbers.

A set of timbers representing twenty-two of the chief woods obtainable in the Colony has been examined at the Imperial Institute and full report supplied regarding their working qualities and mechanical properties. A number of these timbers would be suitable for export to the United Kingdom if the cost of collection and transport does not prove to be too high.

Cotton.

Eight samples of ginned cotton, consisting of native and hybrid varieties grown on the Moor Plantation, Lagos, were examined. They were of good quality and were valued a little higher than "middling" American cotton.

Sixteen samples of ginned cotton from the Government Plantation at Oloke-Meji had apparently been grown from American seed, with the exception of one of native "khaki" cotton. The American varieties were of very good quality, and were valued at from 6*d.* to 7½*d.* per lb. when "middling" American was quoted at 6·64*d.* per lb.

Seven samples consisting of American native and hybrid varieties were also examined and found to be of good marketable quality.

A sample of Ishan native cotton yarn was forwarded for examination. There is no demand in this country for native-spun yarn, but it is probable that the raw cotton of which the yarn is composed would command a ready sale in the English market.

Fibres.

Samples of jute grown experimentally in Southern Nigeria were forwarded for examination. The fibre was very weak, and owing to its matted and tangled condition it was valued at not more than a few pounds per ton for use as tow. This unsatisfactory result was probably due to over-retting. Other jute-like fibres from *Hibiscus esculentus* and *H. lunariifolius* were also examined.

Shea Nuts and Butter.

Four samples of Shea nuts, the seeds of *Butyrospermum Parkii*, and one sample of the fat (known as "Shea butter") extracted from these seeds were received for examination. The fat was valued at £27 5*s*. to £27 10*s*. per ton (December, 1907).

Seeds of Mimusops Djave.

These seeds were found to contain a fat which resembles Shea butter, and would have similar commercial applications.

Seeds of Ricinodendron Species.

"Nsa-sana" seeds, probably derived from a species of Ricinodendron, were examined and found to contain an oil which could be utilised as a substitute for T'ung oil.

Maize.

A memorandum on the cultivation, preparation, and marketing of maize was prepared for the Government of Southern Nigeria.

Food Grains.

Samples of food grains from the Ilorin Province, Northern Nigeria, were forwarded to the Imperial Institute by the Acting Colonial Secretary in Lagos. Specimens of white and red guinea corn were pronounced by commercial experts to be superior to Indian Dari and were valued at 25*s*. and 24*s*. per 480 lbs. in London respectively.

A sample of rice proved to be equal in quality to Bengal rice and worth about 9*s*. 6*d*. per hundredweight.

A variety of Millet ("Gero") was unknown to English buyers, and will be further investigated.

Ninkon Fruits.

Specimens of Ninkon fruits which are used in West Africa as a sweetening agent were examined. The fruits would have no commercial value in this country.

Minerals.

The following reports on the examination of the minerals collected in the course of the Mineral Survey were made during 1907 :—

Lignite from Moroko, Lagos.
Galena and Zinc Blende from Enyibi and Awarakum.
Limestone from the Oshogbo–Ilorin section of the railway.

A number of new exhibits from Southern Nigeria were received in the course of the year, and have been added to the West African Court in the Public Galleries of the Imperial Institute. Descriptive labels have been provided for the exhibits, and maps and statistical tables of information relating to the country have also been added. A catalogue of the Southern Nigeria exhibits has been prepared for publication in the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute." During the year a collection of exhibits from the Southern Nigeria Court was lent to the Colonial Products Exhibition at Liverpool.

Mr. G. C. Dudgeon, Superintendent of Agriculture for West Africa, has been in constant communication with the Imperial Institute on all matters connected with agricultural operations and developments, and has transmitted numerous specimens of economic products for examination at the Imperial Institute.

II.

Statement showing the importation of spirits into Nigeria during the five years ended 31st December, 1907.

Year.	Quantity in gallons.*	Declared value.	Revenue derived from duties.	Duty chargeable.	Explanations.
		£	£		
1903 ..	2,797,308	220,871	419,548	3s. the imperial gallon not exceeding proof by Sykes's hydrometer.	Gallonage shown at proof strength to 28th February, 1905.
1904 ..	3,190,339	277,300	479,846	—	—
1905 ..	2,811,438	262,256	499,024	From 1st March, 1905, 3s. 6d. the imperial gallon, not exceeding 12½ degrees below proof by Sykes's hydrometer, and an additional ½d. for every degree or part of a degree in excess of 12½ degrees.	From 1st March, 1905, duty being charged on liquid gallons, the figures are so included in the returns instead of in proof gallons.
1906 ..	3,321,993	301,738	600,784	From 22nd December, 1906, 4s. the imperial gallon, not exceeding 50 degrees by Tralles Alcoholometer, and an additional 1d. for every degree or part of a degree in excess of 50 degrees.	Spirit imports amounted to 10·6 per cent. of whole inward trade.
1907 ..	4,055,209	385,505	806,942	—	Spirit imports amounted to 10 per cent. of whole inward trade.

* The quantity actually taken into consumption as shown for each year.

III.

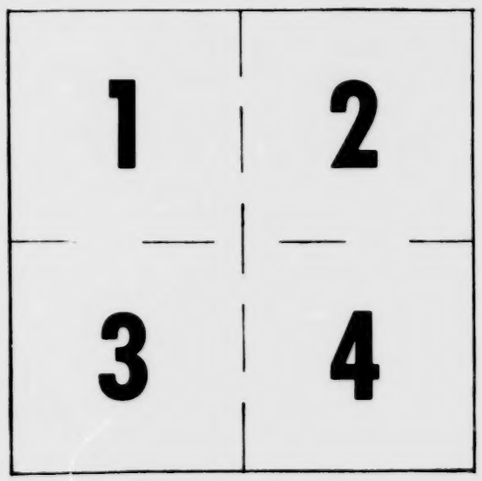
Expansion of Southern Nigeria, 1900–1907.

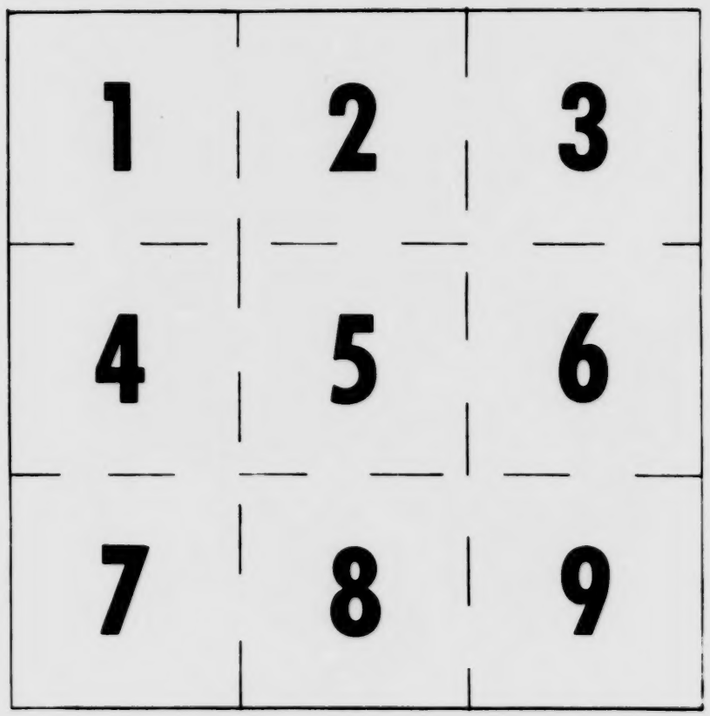
—	1900.	1904.	1907.
Railways—			
Miles...	Nil.	126	187
Passengers ... ... No.		116,267	188,419
Goods ... ... Tons		46,203	82,900
Receipts ... Gross ... £		60,336	139,747
,, ... Net ... £		6,942	65,312
Postal Statistics—			
Letters and Postcards	Not available.	978,928	1,738,308
Cotton Exports (Lint)—			
Pounds (weight)	24,080	1,148,551	4,089,530
Value ... ... £	453	14,831	97,043
Palm Oil, Exports (Imperial Gallons)	12,761,585	16,225,175	18,332,531
Value ... ... £	681,296	929,170	1,313,960
Palm Kernels, Exports ... Tons	85,624	139,788	133,630
Value ... ... £	833,631	1,278,394	1,658,292
Specie—			
Imports ... ... £	210,803	289,577	599,566
Exports ... ... £	131,834	148,325	130,802
Telegraph Lines—			
Miles...	263	608	1,281

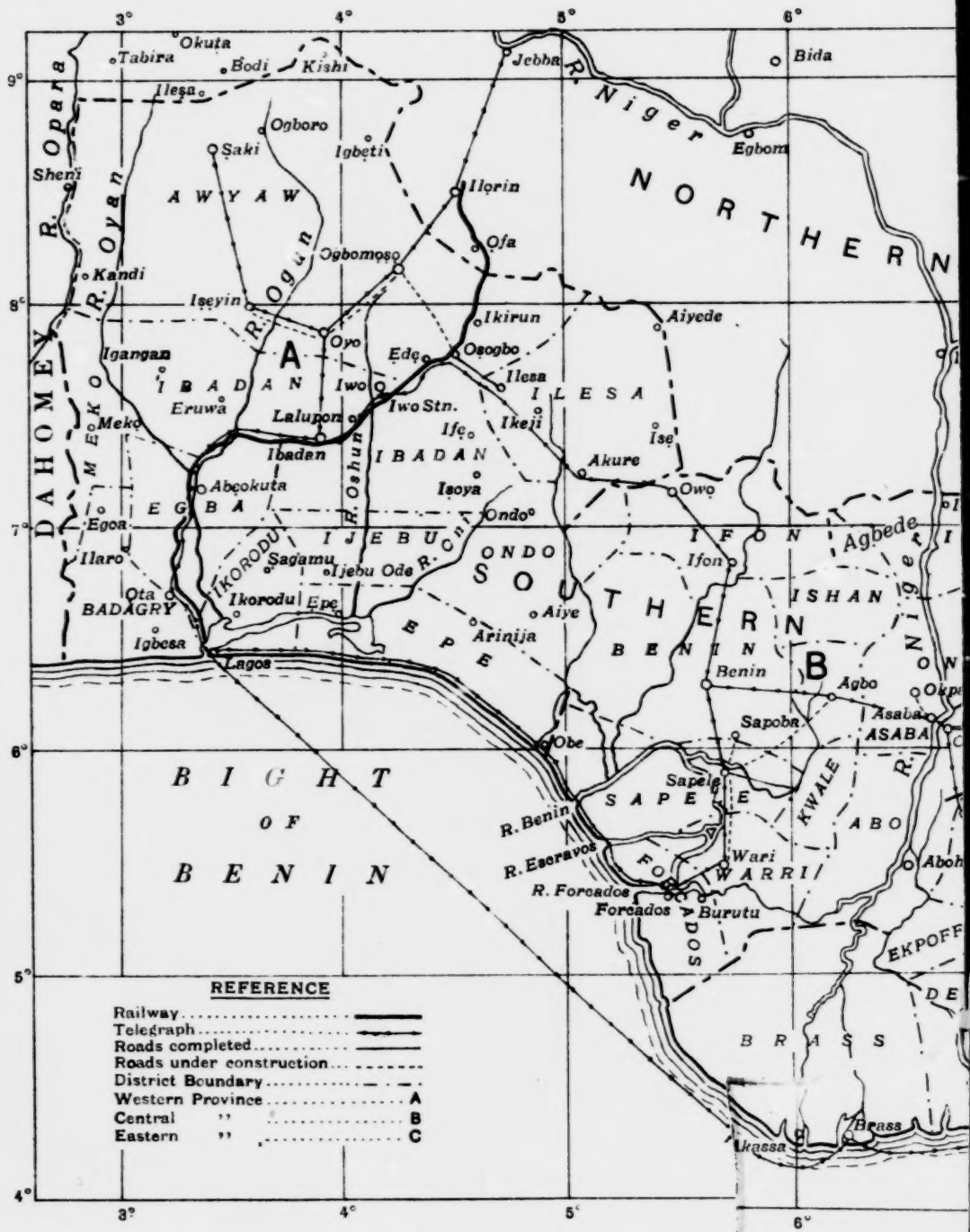
THE EXPANSION OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA, 1900-1907

24.11.08

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.






3°
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Okuta
Tabira
Bodi
Kishi
Jebba
Bida
Ilesa
Ogboro
Saki
Igbeti
Egbom
Shenì
AWYAW
Ilorin
NORTHERN
R. Opara
R. Oyan
R. Ogun
Ofa
Ogbomoso
Kandi
Iseyin
Ikirun
Aiyede
Igangan
A
Oyo
Edé
Osogbo
Ilesa
IBADAN
Iwo
ILESA
Eruwa
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Meko
Lalupon
Ife
Ikeji
Ise
DAHOMEY
MEKO
Ibadan
IBADAN
Akure
Abeokuta
Isoya
Owo
EGBA
Egoa
R. Oshun
Ondo
IJEBU
IFON
Agbede
Ilaro
Sagamu
Ijebu Ode
R. Ona
ONDO
SOUTHERN
Ifon
IKORODU
Ota
BADAGRY
Ikorodu
Epe
Aiye
ISHAN
Igbesa
Arinija
EPE
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R. Benin
KWALE
ABO
R. Escravos
Wari
WARRI
R. Forcados
Forcados
Burutu
FORCADOS
EKPOFF
DE
BRASS
Brass
Ukassa
REFERENCE
Railway
Telegraph
Roads completed
Roads under construction
District Boundary
Western Province A
Central " B
Eastern " C

SOUTHERN NIGERIA
Scale
1/4,000,000 or 1·014 Inches = 64 Miles
7°
8°
9°
10°
9°
8°
7°
6°
5°
4°
NIGERIA
R. Benue
Lokoja
R. Katsena
Katsena
R. Anambra
AFIKPO
Udi
Oka
Abakaliki
Ogoja
OKUNI
R. Cross
Obubra Hill
Ikom
Cross R.
OBUBRA
Afikpo
Oguta
OWERRI
BENDI
Oweri
Bendi
Aro Chuku
Uwet
Aba
CALABAR
Itu
Odukpani
Ikot Ekpene
ABA
Uyo
Queen Beach
Calabar
Ikang
Oron
EKET
BONNY
Eket
New Barracks
Egwanga
Bonny
KAMERUN
Ordnance Survey, Southampton.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
551	Northern Nigeria	1906–1907
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia	1906–1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906–1907
556	Basutoland	,,
557	East Africa Protectorate	,,
558	Uganda Protectorate	,,
559	Swaziland	,,
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	,,
562	Falkland Islands	,,
563	Gibraltar	,,
564	Ashanti...	,,
565	Colonial Survey Committee	1906–1907
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1907
567	Seychelles	,,
568	Bermuda	,,
569	Weihaiwei	,,
570	Hong Kong	,,
571	Malta	1907–1908
572	British Honduras	1907
573	Gold Coast	,,
574	Nyasaland Protectorate	1907–1908
575	Bahamas	,,
576	Gambia...	1907
577	St. Vincent	1907–1908
578	Turks and Caicos Islands	1907
579	St. Lucia	,,
580	Fiji	,,
581	Mauritius	,,
582	Straits Settlements	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
49	East Africa Protectorate ...	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c.	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate... ...	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907–08.
54	Newfoundland	Governor's Visit to the Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	Rietfontein Area.
56	Turks and Caicos Islands ...	Salt Industry.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 630.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

REPORT FOR 1908.

(For Report for 1907, *see* No. 583.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
January, 1910.

LONDON:
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1909.

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No. 630.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

(For Report for 1907, *see* No. 583.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Lagos, Southern Nigeria,
15th October, 1909.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Annual Blue Book Report on the administration of Southern Nigeria for the year 1908, compiled by the Lieutenant-Governor Mr. J. J. Thorburn, C.M.G.

I have, &c.,

WALTER EGERTON,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Crewe, P.C., K.G.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
&c., &c., &c.

(15017—2.) Wt. 27349—387. 1125 & 85. 1/10. D & S.

FINANCIAL.

The total revenue collected amounted to £1,387,975, exceeding the amount estimated by £34,414, but showing a decrease of £71,579 as compared with 1907.

The actual figures for the year show an increase in the total receipts over the Estimates for 1908 of £34,414, but this result is due to the extraordinary receipt £85,376, representing the re-adjustment from loan funds of the amount paid in 1907 from surplus balances for railway construction. Otherwise, the shortage would have been £50,962. This deficit is due to the shrinkage in Customs receipts in the Central and Eastern Provinces owing to (*a*) Ordinance No. 3 of 1908 having placed on the free list the following articles:—rice, provisions, sugar, &c., which involved a sacrifice of £20,917; (*b*) smaller importations of dutiable articles; and (*c*) an over-estimate in Postal Revenue and Railway Receipts. The other heads of revenue justified or exceeded anticipations.

The following statement shows the receipts under each head of revenue compared with those for the preceding year:—

Head of Revenue.	1908.	1907.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs duties	1,014,583	1,178,193	—	163,610
Harbour and lighting dues ...	1,947	1,812	135	—
Licences, &c.	18,280	17,497	783	—
Fees of Court, &c.	70,584	79,380	—	8,796
Postal Revenue	9,872	8,196	1,676	—
Rent of Government properties ...	2,068	1,932	136	—
Interest	30,470	15,129	15,341	—
Miscellaneous	92,478	8,329	84,149	—
Railway and tramway	144,699	148,234	—	3,535
Land sales	2,994	852	2,142	—
Total	1,387,975	1,459,554	104,362	175,941

The receipts from Customs duties amounted to 73·1 per cent. of the revenue received from all sources. The receipts from specific duties totalled £863,609, compared with £994,130 in 1907, while *ad valorem* duties amounted to £150,974, compared with £184,063 in 1907. The following are the percentages of duty derived from the principal articles on which duties of customs are levied:—

	Per cent.		£
Spirits	68	...	691,000
Cotton goods	9·6	...	98,000
Tobacco, unmanufactured ...	7·8	...	79,000

The actual expenditure for the year met from revenue amounted to £1,357,763, as against £1,217,337 in 1907; while further expenditure, chargeable to loans (railway construction, &c.), amounted to £852,517, compared with £296,872 in 1907. As regards loan expenditure, the sum of £669,363 was expended on railway extension, and £121,471 on other works, whilst £61,683 was expended in connexion with raising the 1908 loan. The

total sum expended on railway construction to the 31st December, 1908, was £2,657,885.

The total loans raised to 31st December, 1908 (£5,000,000), realised £4,797,665, from which total expenditure to same date had been incurred amounting to £2,680,052, leaving £2,117,613 available for future expenditure, subject to amounts advanced to Northern Nigeria on account of the Baro-Kano Railway.

The following statement shows the amount spent from each head of expenditure during the year 1908, compared with the preceding year:—

Head of Expenditure.	Payments.		Increase.	Decrease.
	January to December, 1907.	January to December, 1908.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Charge on Account of Public Debt.	70,345 9 1	112,939 4 9	42,593 15 8	—
Pensions and Gratuities	12,224 0 1	13,475 16 7	1,251 16 6	—
Governor's Office ...	7,210 4 5	9,189 12 4	1,979 7 11	—
Colonial Secretariat ...	9,561 12 11	12,801 13 7	3,240 0 8	—
Political and Administrative.	68,813 11 1	71,858 1 3	3,044 10 2	—
Judicial	9,744 12 11	9,759 6 1	14 13 2	—
Legal and Registration ..	2,677 3 9	3,084 14 3	407 10 6	—
Treasury and Customs ...	34,293 9 0	39,865 19 3	5,572 10 3	—
Postal	12,279 14 9	12,116 13 10	—	163 0 11
Telegraphs	15,440 0 1	21,249 17 2	5,809 17 1	—
Audit	5,714 16 4	6,368 4 3	653 7 11	—
Printing	7,062 2 4	9,431 19 7	2,369 17 3	—
West African Frontier Force, Southern Nigeria Regiment.	100,297 17 1	98,689 19 5	—	1,607 17 8
Volunteer Force	1,084 1 11	1,786 6 11	702 5 0	—
Marine	124,476 3 9	118,780 16 9	—	5,695 7 0
Civil Police	35,132 7 8	37,915 13 10	2,783 6 2	—
Prisons	23,503 9 2	29,230 4 1	5,726 14 11	—
Forestry	20,722 11 5	9,969 0 2	—	10,753 11 3
Agriculture	—	8,264 18 7	8,264 18 7	—
Medical	48,250 6 11	55,193 10 7	6,943 3 8	—
Sanitary	3,516 9 10	4,456 18 1	940 8 3	—
Native Affairs	20,212 0 2	20,363 3 9	151 3 7	—
Education	16,638 6 0	20,325 2 2	3,686 16 2	—
Surveys	8,587 10 1	9,090 7 2	502 17 1	—
Mineral Surveys	1,113 19 2	2,095 7 0	981 7 10	—
Lands	5,753 2 9	25,362 8 8	19,609 5 11	—
Laboratory	639 3 5	638 8 9	—	0 14 8
Rent	1,565 17 11	2,163 12 8	597 14 9	—
Charitable...	354 2 5	300 17 2	—	53 5 3
Transport	58,846 6 6	62,597 12 1	3,751 5 7	—
Contribution to Northern Nigeria.	71,250 0 0	70,000 0 0	—	1,250 0 0
Miscellaneous Services ..	20,064 11 1	24,277 19 5	4,213 8 4	—
Public Works Department	34,176 2 4	37,288 6 9	3,112 4 5	—
Roads Construction ...	3,640 8 11	5,817 6 11	2,176 18 0	—
Works and Buildings Annually Recurrent.	36,460 15 1	38,511 19 6	2,051 4 5	—
Roads and Bridges Annually Recurrent.	5,732 7 2	10,138 8 1	4,406 0 11	—
Railway	74,997 4 4	101,224 9 11	26,227 5 7	—
Tramway	1,632 18 1	1,939 10 7	306 12 6	—
Carter and Denton Bridges	1,256 5 5	1,183 8 3	—	72 17 2
Works and Buildings Extraordinary.	97,587 18 8	142,542 7 8	44,954 9 0	—
Roads and Bridges Extraordinary.	65,743 10 5	57,102 4 3	—	8,641 6 2
Telegraphs Extraordinary	17,714 19 0	17,937 12 4	222 13 4	—
Marine Extraordinary ...	61,019 4 1	20,433 19 2	—	40,595 4 11
Total	1,217,336 17 6	1,357,763 3 7	209,249 11 1	68,823 5 0

The following statement shows the total revenue and expenditure for the last five years:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1904	888,136	863,917
1905	951,748	998,564
1906	1,088,717	1,056,290
1907	1,459,554	1,217,337
1908	1,387,975	1,357,763

The excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1908, was £662,550, which is £30,212 more than at the close of 1907.

The banking business of the Government is transacted by the Bank of British West Africa, under an agreement entered into in 1894. This agreement, however, applies only to Lagos, and equal facilities are still lacking in the Central and Eastern Provinces. The competition introduced into the banking business in Lagos, by the establishment of a branch of the Bank of Nigeria, has proved beneficial to Government and the mercantile community.

TRADE.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1906	2,847,318	2,950,392	5,797,710
1907	3,839 339	3,863,332	7,702,671
1908	4,046,572	3,335,911	7,382,483

The above figures do *not* include either specie or Porto Novo transit goods and produce. They do, however, include Government importations, and goods and produce passing through the Central Province to or from Northern Nigeria.

The average total imports and exports, as above, compared with the periods 1900-2 and 1903-5 were as under:—

	£	
1900-2	3,993,000	(excluding specie).
1903-5	4,941,000	,, ,,
1906-8	6,960,000	,, ,,

say, four, five, and seven millions sterling, respectively. Up to 1904, Porto Novo transit goods and produce were included in the Customs returns, and, consequently, the averages shown for the first two periods represent a portion of the trade of Dahomey as well as Nigeria.

Government imports during 1908 were, approximately, half a million sterling more than in 1907, the figures for each year being:—

	£
1907	298,615 (excluding specie).
1908	784,263 ,, ,,

The increase is mainly due to the larger shipments of railway material which entered the Colony consequent upon the extension of the Lagos Railway and the construction of the Baro-Kano line.

Deducting Government imports and exports for each of the last two years, the following figures show the purely *commercial* inward and outward shipments of Nigeria, viz., Northern and Southern together:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1907	3,540,724	3,862,976	7,403,700
1908	3,262,309	3,334,175	6,596,484

With regard to the Northern Nigeria imports and exports, a record showing the value of goods and produce entering or leaving Northern Nigeria viâ Idah, on the boundary has been kept since 1906. From this return it appears that (exclusive of specie) the Northern Nigeria commercial imports and exports for each year were, approximately, as follows:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1907	218,000	211,000	429,000
1908	186,000	240,000	426,000

In passing, it may be noted that the exports of tin from Northern Nigeria, as cleared at Forcados, are £55,000 more than in 1907. This increase, however, does not counterbalance the heavy shortage in Northern Nigeria rubber, which was declared at Idah as of the value of £91,000 in 1907, against only £33,000 in 1908.

Allowing for the Northern Nigeria figures as above, the following are found to be the net commercial imports and exports of Southern Nigeria:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1907	3,322,000	3,652,000	6,974,000
1908	3,076,000	3,094,000	6,170,000

These figures do not include either specie, Government importations, Northern Nigeria goods and produce, or Porto Novo transit goods and produce, and, therefore, fairly represent the net trade of *Southern* Nigeria.

It will be observed from the above figures that, taking Southern Nigeria commercial imports and exports together, there was a decrease of £804,000 in 1908 as compared with 1907, but it must be remembered that, owing largely to abnormally high produce prices, 1907 was a phenomenal year for trade in Southern Nigeria, the total gross imports and exports rising from £5,800,000 in 1906, which was the best previous year, to £7,700,000 in 1907.

In 1908 prices for the large staple exports dropped heavily, the average depreciation on palm produce, as compared with 1907, being 17 per cent., with a break of almost 30 per cent. in cocoa and rubber. Bearing this fact in mind, it is gratifying to note that the total value of our Southern Nigeria exports fell by a little over 15 per cent. only. The following were the average values of produce in 1908 and 1907:—

	1908.			1907.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Palm oil	25	8	6	30	1	0
Palm kernels	13	11	0	16	15	0
Rubber (Lagos lump) ...	0	1	8	0	2	3¾
Cocoa	2	15	9	3	19	0

In addition to the heavy decline in values of oil, kernels, rubber, and cocoa in the European markets, the year under review suffered from the effects of short rainfall towards the end of 1907, which adversely influenced some of the 1908 crops, and in particular rendered the cotton harvest a comparative failure.

Reduced value of exports naturally lowers the purchasing power of the natives, but it will be noted that whilst the Southern Nigeria commercial exports in 1908 dropped by £558,000, the commercial imports were only £246,000 below 1907. The principal shortage in imports was in spirits, £53,000, and cotton goods, £46,000 (after deducting the Northern Nigeria imports in both years). With regard to spirits, it is to be noted that the greatest falling away was seen in the Eastern Province, there being 513,000 gallons less imported into that Province than during the previous year. The Central Province reduced its imports of spirits by 232,000 gallons, and the Western by 73,000 gallons. It is generally believed that the Eastern Province merchants were more heavily overstocked with spirits, cotton goods, and other large lines of trade at the end of 1907 than those in the other provinces, and that, consequently, shipments in 1908 had to be curtailed. Imports of cotton goods in the Eastern Province were £73,000 short, and there was a deficiency of £18,000 in the Central (after allowing for Northern Nigeria goods). In the Western Province, however, the imports of Manchester goods were £45,000 in excess of 1907, but, from data supplied by a number of the Lagos merchants at the end of the year, it is believed that Western Province stocks of cottons had increased

during the year by £30,000 to £40,000. Still, even allowing for this, it is reassuring to find that the old Lagos province, with its better transport facilities and untied markets, actually consumed as large a quantity of cotton goods in 1908 as during the previous year (say, £530,000), notwithstanding the greatly reduced value of its exports.

Deducting Government imports and Northern Nigeria goods and produce, the following were the net imports and exports for each province in 1908, as compared with 1907:—

	Imports.		Exports.		Total.	
	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.	1907.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Western	1,464,992	1,407,270	979,408	1,360,544	2,444,400	2,767,814
Central	631,834	687,998	792,662	740,226	1,424,496	1,428,224
Eastern	979,483	1,227,456	1,322,105	1,551,206	2,301,588	2,778,662
Total	3,076,309	3,322,724	3,094,175	3,651,976	6,170,484	6,974,700

The Central Province returns had the benefit of a quantity of Southern Nigeria oil and kernels to the value of over £30,000, which had been held back from the previous year owing to low water in the Niger. Allowing for this, however, the exports from that province show up far better than either the Western or Eastern, and it would appear as if the clearing of waterways had already resulted in an appreciable quantity of produce being worked which had before been neglected. Kernels, for example, show a net increase on the year of over 3,000 tons, after allowing for Northern Nigeria produce in both years, and also for the Southern Nigeria kernels held back from 1907. There was also an increase of £19,000 in the value of mahogany shipped from the Central Province.

Stocks of duty-paid goods in the merchants' stores fluctuate from time to time and fallaciously affect both revenue and import figures as representing actual consumption in any single year. And *values* of exports, unless taken in conjunction with quantities, also give a misleading impression. But in the *bulk* of its exports of staple produce, as distinct from the value, we have a sound index as to the Colony's productiveness, and in this respect the output of 1908 may be regarded with satisfaction, bearing in mind the unfavourable climatic conditions in the latter months of 1907. In this connection an extract from the Trade Report for 1907 represented the position as follows:—

> "The average rainfall at the fifteen stations in the Colony and Protectorate from which complete returns are available was for the whole year 68·66 inches in 1907, as compared with 77·6 in 1906. The shortage is most pronounced in the Central and Eastern Provinces, where there was a very marked deficiency from August on to the end of the year, as will be seen from the following returns:—

Rainfall—August to December.

	1906. Inches.	1907. Inches.
Benin City	52·50 ...	22·44
Sapele	51·75 ...	16·16
Forcados	47·95 ...	25·45
Calabar	73·74 ...	45·89
Bende	40·58 ...	24·95
Bonny	71·39 ...	48·36
Asaba	30·40 ...	13·62

"One would imagine that the 1908 crop could scarcely fail to be adversely affected by the above shortage, and that a reduced output of palm produce must be expected."

The following quantities of the principal Southern Nigeria products were exported in the last two years:—

—	1908.		1907.	
	Total Exports.	Of which Northern Nigeria contributed.	Total Exports.	Of which Northern Nigeria contributed.
Palm kernels ... Tons	136,558	4,837	133,630	2,303
Palm oil ... Galls.	18,328,896	525	18,332,531	509
Rubber ... ... Lbs.	1,222,203	509,454	2,843,823	1,187,588
Lint cotton ... ,,	2,294,356	56,986	4,089,530	397,915
Cocoa ... ... ,,	3,060,609	Nil	2,089,226	Nil
Maize ... ... Tons	15,528	Nil	9,891	Nil

Five-sixths of the Southern Nigeria exports consist of the produce of the palm tree, and the following average exports for periods of three years since 1900 are of interest:—

	Oil. Gallons.	Kernels. Tons.
Average 1900-2	15,534,000 ...	110,742
,, 1903-5	15,192,000 ...	126,834
,, 1906-8	17,564,000 ...	127,842

Porto Novo transit oil and kernels were included up to 1904, and of course unduly inflated the averages for the two earlier periods shown, more especially in palm kernels, which were passing through from Dahomey at the rate of 10,000 to 15,000 tons per annum. Notwithstanding the Lagos Railway, there is more likelihood of a large increase in the export of palm produce from the Central and Eastern Provinces within the next few years than from the Western, where most of the trees within easy access are worked. As pointed out in previous reports, there is an enormous quantity of kernels still untouched, and at a low estimate it may be safely assumed that half a million sterling's worth of this produce is not worked each year in the Eastern Province

alone. Government has, during the year under review, been pursuing exhaustive enquiries regarding the best means of fostering and developing the palm produce industry, and is still engaged thereon.

Rubber appears to be a rapidly decaying business, the total shipments (Northern and Southern Nigeria together) being little more than a third of the quantity exported in 1906. Deducting the Northern Nigeria rubber which came through in each of the last two years, we find that the Southern production in 1908 was 713,000 lbs. only, as compared with 1,656,000 lbs. in 1907. Some portion of the shortage may be attributed to the prohibition of tapping in certain districts, but the reckless destruction of trees by excessive bleeding is largely responsible for the drooping business, which, it should be pointed out, is at present confined entirely to rubber collected from trees growing wild in the bush. The following extract from the Trade Report for 1907 may here be pertinently quoted:—

> "The planting of rubber by natives has all along been encouraged and assisted by the Forestry Department, and in some parts of the Central Province the plantations are doing very well, and give good promise for the future. It is generally realised that not until rubber trees are owned by individuals, who will see that they are duly protected, can this industry be looked upon as a permanent one in Nigeria. Thousands of trees in the forests, which are practically a 'no man's land,' are destroyed each year by over-tapping, and although every effort is made by the Forestry Department, with the staff at its command, to regulate the gathering and to prevent indiscriminate bleeding, the task in so large a country and amidst dense forests is, it must be admitted, an extremely difficult one."

The preservation of wild trees continues to receive the serious attention of Government, and a scheme whereby the natives may be induced to plant rubber on a large scale is under consideration.

Cotton, as already noted, was a comparative failure, due to short rainfall in 1907. In the principal growing district there was a fall of only 10·7 inches from the time the seed was sown until the harvest, as compared with 16·8 inches in 1906. It is pleasing to have proof that the short crop in 1908 was really due to deficient rainfall, and not to any permanent cause. This is borne out by the current year's (1909) crop, which, following the good rains August to December, 1908, viz., 22·20 inches, was up to June 30th two and a half times as large as that of 1908. In view of the importance of this business, the following figures, showing the buyings of seed-cotton in the Western Province for the seasons January to June, 1907, 1908, and 1909, are of interest:—

Seed-cotton Purchases, Western Province.

January-June, 1907	9,246,000
,, ,, 1908	6,856,000
,, ,, 1909	15,244,000

Cocoa and maize show respectively the very satisfactory increase of approximately 50 and 60 per cent. in weight over 1907, but, owing to the heavy drop in price of cocoa, the combined increase in value was only 34 per cent.

Very encouraging progress continues to be made in the Western Province with regard to the cultivation of crops for export—at present cotton, cocoa, and maize—and it is believed that year by year the total outward shipments of produce will be considerably augmented from this source. Notwithstanding the partial failure of the 1908 cotton crop, to which reference has been made, the total value of cultivated exports from the Western Province during the year under review was £147,000, made up as follows:—

Cotton (including seed)	£55,000
Maize	52,000
Cocoa	40,000

The average exports of these products from the same province during the three years 1900-2 was under £7,000; 1903-5, £41,000; and 1906-8, £137,000.

As showing in a very marked form how valuable the Lagos Railway is in developing agriculture, it may be remarked that, in the Western Province, all the cotton and one half of the cocoa and maize were rail-borne in 1908, and that, so far as value goes, the railway deals with 70 per cent of the total exports of these cultivated products from Lagos.

Experiments were conducted during the year with a view to establishing an export trade in ground-nuts, which are already grown for local consumption in several parts of the country. Seed was obtained from the Gambia, and a couple of men were brought down from that Colony to demonstrate the methods of cultivation there employed. Although the Gambia seed gave a better yield than the local nuts, the results so far have not been satisfactory, but further experiments are being undertaken, and it is hoped that a profitable market may be found for this produce, which will be an excellent crop to grow in rotation with cotton in the northern parts of the Colony and beyond.

Whilst the bulk of the crops cultivated for export is raised in the Lagos hinterland, a relatively small quantity of Southern Nigeria-grown cotton is shipped from the Central Province, and this is of a better grade than the average Lagos quality. No maize, and only a negligible quantity of cocoa, is at present exported from the Central Province. From the Eastern Province no cotton and only an experimental lot of maize was shipped, but cocoa to the value of £10,000 was cleared during the year.

With the extension of the Lagos Railway, which crossed the Northern Nigeria boundary during the year and was opened to Ilorin (247 miles) in August, a further large field is thrown open for agriculture, and it is believed that greatly increased quantities of cultivated crops will be shipped from the Western Province within the next year or two. Later, when the densely populated country in the upper Zaria and Kano Provinces has been reached, a

still greater impetus will be given to trade. And, as already suggested, the Eastern and Central Provinces have a great wealth of palm produce still unworked, which must come forward as the country is opened up by freer competition in the interior markets. Government has done much good work during the last two years in the way of creek and river clearing in those provinces by opening out the Osiomo, Ethiope, Sombreiro, Imo, and Otaminie Rivers, amongst others, and there is little doubt as to an increased trade resulting. Looking at matters broadly, and without being unduly optimistic, the commercial outlook in Nigeria cannot be regarded as otherwise than encouraging.

Forestry.

In the Western Province a large tract of forest-covered country known as the Ijaye Forest was reserved by the Ibadan Government. The forest is a valuable one, situated as it is right in the middle of the so-called "dry zone" savannah districts, where timber is usually very scarce.

The reserved areas in the Central Province were increased by the following additional reserves created during the year:—

a. *Timber and Fuel Reserves.*—

i. The Onitsha reserve, approximate area 15 square miles.

ii. The Idah fuel reserve, approximate area 4 square miles.

b. *Game Reserves.*—

i. The Ore River reserve, Idah district, approximate area 200 square miles.

ii. The Anambra River reserve, Onitsha district, approximate area 150 square miles.

The total increase in the reserved area thus amounts to approximately 369 square miles.

No reserves were created in the Eastern Province, but steps are still being taken to bring a large tract of well-wooded hilly country in the Oban Hills under such protection. This is intended to be a combined game and timber reserve.

All the reserves were regularly patrolled during the year, and no special difficulty was experienced in protecting them against breaches of the forest rules. In the Western Province an arrangement was arrived at under which squatters who have settled in the Olokemeji Reserve of late years agreed to occupy a special tract of country set aside for the purpose. Licensed settlers were allowed to farm in the Mamu Reserve on the agreement that the areas cleared for farms are to be cultivated for two years and then planted up with valuable timber trees and other plants of economic importance. This is the system followed in Burma in the case of tribes practising the shifting cultivation known as "taungya." Steady progress is being made in planting this reserve up with valuable species.

The Ibadan State Reserve has suffered much from trespassers, and the ranger in charge was obliged to appeal to the Resident for help. Illicit rubber tappers have done a good deal of damage

to the *Funtumia elastica* trees. The Native Communal Reserves in the Benin City District have been fairly well protected by the owners.

With the exception of the protection afforded by reservation and the restrictions imposed on indiscriminate fellings in licensed timber areas, there is but little protection given to the bulk of the forests, enormous portions of which are annually destroyed by the farmers under the wasteful system of agriculture practised by them. But little improvement can be expected in this direction till they have been induced by a properly organised and well-found Agricultural Department to adopt less primitive methods of cultivating and tending their crops.

From the Western Province five persons were reported as having been prosecuted for breaches of the forest laws in Government reserves and four convictions were obtained. In the Central Province, owing to the active part taken by the native communities in protecting their forests, the list of prosecutions is a somewhat long one. 23 prosecutions for breaches of the timber laws were made and 19 convictions obtained; the offences consisted of felling timber without permits. Under the Rubber Rules 12 prosecutions were made and 10 convictions obtained. In the Eastern Province no prosecutions under the forest laws were reported.

Under the head of natural regeneration of forests there is but little to record. The fire-protected area in the Olokemeji Reserve shows a great improvement in the natural regeneration of the "dry zone" Cedar (*Pseudocedrela kotschyi*) and the "Balsam Copaiba" tree (*Daniellia thurifera*).

A scheme for the systematic planting up of all blanks in the reserves with plants of economic value was adopted in the Western Province.

These operations in the case of the Olokemeji Reserve extended over 35 acres, which have been planted up with the following species:—

	Seedlings.
Iroko (*Chlorophora excelsa*)	16,710
Teak (*Tectona grandis*)	350
Ebony (*Piospyros mespiliformis*)	2,370
Mahogany (*Khaya punchii*)	860
Emido (*Mimusops multinervis*)	1,670

In addition to these, new nurseries of *Afzelia africana*, *Albizia lebbeck*, *Mimusops elongii*, and *Tectona grandis* were started.

The plantations in the Mamu Reserve were increased by 617 Mahoganies (*Khaya grandifolia*) and 108 Ijebos (*Khaya Punchii*), as well as by 7,799 Para rubber plants (*Hevea braziliensis*). 2,428 seedlings of this latter species were also put out in the Oshun River Reserve; a deserted farm in the Illaro Reserve has likewise been planted up with Mahogany and Iroko.

Plantations of previous years were reported as doing well; those of *Funtumia elastica*, in the Mamu Reserve, were much benefited by the extra light let in from felling some of the forest trees.

Porcupines and a large species of cricket have done some damage to the young seedlings.

In the Central Province the number of seedlings of timber trees transplanted in licensed areas amounted to 45,520, the majority of which consisted of Mahoganies (different species of *Khaya*) and Cedars (species of *Pseudocedrela*).

Owing to the bad germination of the seed collected during the early part of the year, the number of *Funtumia elastica* plants put out in the communal plantations amounted to only 133,094 as against 234,878 in 1907. The number of plantations formed during the year was 622, most of which were made as extensions to existing ones.

There are at present 2,251 *Funtumia elastica* plantations, containing 1,125,972 trees, in the Central Province. Several of the latter are now old enough to be tapped.

Messrs. Alexander Miller Brother's Para rubber plantation at Sapeli is doing very well and shows good growth. It contains 8,000 plants 33 months old, and 22,000 plants 18 months of age. The average girth of the former is 9·33 inches, and of the latter 3·69 inches.

Small plantations, either of that species or *Funtumia elastica*, have been made (according to the climate prevailing locally) at each of the district headquarter stations of the Eastern Province; the intention is that these may form seed-distributing centres and gradually to extend them from time to time as land becomes available; with this object in view nurseries also have been started at those stations.

The excellent small Para rubber plantation at Eket, belonging to The African Association, was visited during the course of the year by the Provincial Forest Officer and reported to be doing well.

Exploitation of Major Forest Produce.

(*Timber.*)

The exports of timber in the round for the last three years, together with the local values, are given below:—

	Local Value.
1906—15,734 logs	£56,942
1907—17,237 ,, ...	62,834
1908—22,303 ,, ...	77,054

The bulk of the timber exported was procured from trees belonging to the genera *Khaya* (Mahoganies), *Pseudocedrela* (Cedars), and *Gaurea* ("Walnuts").

The output from each province for the year was:—

	Local Value.
Western Province—660 logs	£2,671
Central Province—21,562 logs	73,924
Eastern Province—81 logs	459

Owing to the deficient rainfall in the Benin District in 1907 and the consequent accumulation of timber in the creeks, fewer

trees were felled in 1908 than in 1907. The number of trees for which felling permits were issued was 3,528 as against 5,483 of the previous year.

The number of licensed areas exploited during 1908 in the Central Province was 41; the number of areas abandoned or cancelled during the same period was 20; whilst 28 new applications for licences were received, and 19, inclusive of some received in 1907, were provisionally granted. There remained at the end of the year 28 applications still to be dealt with.

The chiefs and villages interested in licensed timber areas in the Central Province were each paid a sum of £750 as royalties, the corresponding amount for the previous year being £1,169 5*s*. The reduction was due to the smaller number of trees felled in 1908.

Exploitation of Minor Forest Produce.

The exports of minor forest products during the year from the three provinces were as follows:—

Description of Produce.	Western Province.	Central Province.	Eastern Province.	Total.	
	Quantity.	Quantity.	Quantity	Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	£
Rubber	81,449	1,027,615	87,726	1,196,790	96,038
	Tons.	Tons.		Tons.	
Shea butter ...	132·98	186·96	—	319·94	5,637
Shea kernels ...	·19	3,967·28	—	3,967·47	35,611
	Lbs.	Lbs.		Lbs.	
Gum copal	4,490	26,392	303	31,185	431
		Pkgs.	Pkgs.	Pkgs.	
Piassava fibre ...	—	2,389	6,269	8,658	5,638
			Lbs.	Lbs.	
Camwood	2,380	—	120	2,500	19
		Ton.	Tons.	Tons.	
Ebony	—	1	16	17	47
Total value ...	—	—	—	—	143,421

NOTE.—The figures for the Central Province include the exports from Northern Nigeria.

Compared with the figures of the previous year there was a marked falling off in the quantity of rubber exported. This was mainly due to the poor prices offered for the produce owing to the general trade depression prevailing in the home markets. The decrease amounted to 1,647,013 lbs. valued at £148,951. There was, on the other hand, a great increase in the number (3,950) of packages of piassava fibre exported.

Experiments in rubber tapping were carried out on a large scale with *Funtumia elastica* trees growing in the Ibadan State Reserve. Owing to the want of sufficient European supervision the results were not satisfactory.

Some *Hevea* trees, about 16 years old, growing in the Ebute-Metta Gardens, were tapped for the first time and yielded rubber that has been very favourably reported on by the Imperial Institute.

The total forest revenue for the year amounted to £11,202 and the expenditure to £8,746; the net result being a surplus balance of £2,456.

The collection of botanical specimens, started in previous years, was continued, and several batches were forwarded to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, for identification. Numerous lists of Southern Nigeria plants identified during the year have been received from the Director of the Gardens and have proved of great value to forest officers.

AGRICULTURE.

With the exception of the cotton crop, which was, owing to the irregular rainfall, a partial failure, there was a satisfactory increase in the exports of the chief agricultural products of the country; this was more particularly the case with maize and cocoa, both of which crops have been rapidly developed of late years.

The exports of cotton during the year were distributed between the Western and Central Provinces (which latter includes the figures for Northern Nigeria) as follows:—

	Lbs.
Western Province—	
Cotton lint	2,162,751
Cotton seed	4,802,782
Central Province—	
Cotton lint	131,602
Cotton seed	789,197

No cotton was exported from the Eastern Province though it is said to be cultivated in the recently opened-up country to the north of the Cross River.

The 1909 crop of the Western Province is expected to be a bumper one.

The export of maize shows a steady increase, and in 1908 amounted to no less than 15,529 tons, valued at £51,696; with the exception of two tons from the Central Province, this was shipped entirely from the Western Province, where the railway extension and development appears to have greatly stimulated its cultivation.

The corn is very much infested with the maize weevil, and the best methods of preventing the attacks of this insect are seriously engaging the attention of the recently appointed Government entomologist.

Experiments carried out in the Olokemeji Gardens (Western Province) with a view to ascertaining whether the yield can be increased to such an extent by the use of artificial manures as to make the import and use of the latter in up-country districts profitable were entirely successful. It was found that by the

use of sulphate of potash and sulphate of ammonia as manure, involving an additional outlay of 57 per cent, the yield of corn can be increased by as much as 78 per cent.

The exports of cocoa for the last four years and its corresponding values are shown below:—

	Value.
1905—1,051,987 lbs.	£16,908
1906—1,619,987 ,, ...	27,054
1907—2,089,225 ,, ...	47,840
1908—3,060,609 ,, ...	50,587

These figures indicate the extraordinary expansion that has taken place of late years in the cultivation of this plant. There are large tracts of suitable country available for cocoa plantations, more especially in the eastern portions of the Western Province (Jebu-Ode and Ondo districts) and in the southern portions of the Central and Eastern Provinces. And there is no doubt that the industry can be greatly developed in those localities by the appointment of trained agriculturists and the utilization of their services in travelling round the districts with a view to teaching the native farmers the best methods of cultivating, tending, and harvesting the crop. There is much room for improvement in all these directions, more especially in protecting the plants from insect and fungoid pests.

The exports of ground-nuts for the year under review from the three provinces were as follows:—

Western Province.		Central Province.		Eastern Province.		Total.	
Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Cwts.	£ *s.* *d*	Cwts.	£ *s.* *d.*	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£
38·26	18 3 6	33,034·1	14,853 4 10	—	—	33,072·36	14,871

The figures for the Central Province include the exports from Northern Nigeria.

Two natives from the Gambia were brought round to teach the farmers of the Western Province the best methods of cultivating this crop; their services were utilized in travelling about the province teaching and laying out plots for cultivation. The latter were started at Olokemeji, Oyo, Oshogbo, Inseyin, Ibadan, and Abeokuta, and for purposes of comparison the native and the imported Gambia seeds were planted in parallel plots. The results showed:—

1st. That the yield from the Gambia nut is greater than that from the indigenous variety, especially on indifferent soils; and

2nd. That the climate and soil of Oyo are best suited, of any tried, for the cultivation of this crop.

It is doubtful, however, whether the Gambia natives had much to teach, the Yoruba being an excellent agriculturist, and his methods of cultivating the species differing but little from those employed in the Gambia.

Experiments were carried out at the Olokemeji Gardens with a view to ascertaining the average yield per acre of guinea corn. They gave a yield of 15 cwts. 1 quarter 12 lbs. to the acre.

A large number of experiments in the cultivation of various fibre-yielding plants were carried out in the Botanical Gardens of the Western and Central Provinces. The most promising species appears to be "Ramo" (*Hibiscus guineensis*), an indigenous plant, which gave a yield of ¼ ton of fibre per acre. The yield per acre of jute was found to be so small as to render its cultivation unprofitable. Other crops, such as the native hemp (*Sansiveria guineensis*), sisal hemp (*Agave origida*), and the Mauritius hemp, were not ready for reaping at the close of the year.

The Botanical Gardens were well maintained during the year and a lot of useful work was done in them. Not only were a number of experiments, some of which have already been referred to, carried out, but large quantities of plants and seeds were distributed from them; there was a falling off, however, in the distribution from the gardens of the Western Province, where some of the farmers have now taken to preparing and maintaining nurseries of their own.

The distribution of plants and seeds from the Botanical Gardens of the three Provinces is shown below:—

	No. distributed.
Western Province—	
Economic plants	4,116
Fruit plants	2,574
Ornamental plants	3,863
Rubber-yielding plants	3,950
Central Province—	
Economic plants (rubber and cocoa) ...	5,563
Ornamental plants	4,166
Eastern Province—	
Various economic plants	5,418
Ornamental plants	4,478
Pineapple suckers	2,323
Cocoa plants	320
Bananas (*musa carendishii*) plants ...	208
Shade trees	368
Seed—	
Funtumia elastica	52 lbs.
Cocoa pods	446 pods
Coffee seeds	2,000
Avocado pear	264
Annatto	182 lbs.
Various economic trees	1,670 seeds
	14 packets
Shade trees	2,800 seeds
	3 lbs.
Ornamental trees	73 packets

The total distribution thus amounts to 19,369 economic plants (rubber and cocoa), 5,105 fruit plants, 12,507 ornamental plants, 368 shade trees, 237 lbs. weight of seeds of economic plants, 446 cocoa pods, 5,064 seeds of economic plants, and 87 packets of various seeds.

The Curator of the Botanical Gardens, Calabar, was able to undertake a fair amount of travelling and to instruct the native farmers in the best methods of cultivating plants of economic importance. He reports that the *Hevea braziliensis* plantation at Calabar shows magnificent growth, that the fruit trees imported from the Federated Malay States are doing well, but that the sago and nipa palms have not proved so successful. The latter, however, now appear to have become established and are showing improved growth.

In addition to the above a good deal of tree planting along road-sides was carried out at Calabar and a nursery of cocoa and Para rubber formed at Ikot-Nakanda, a large farming centre in that district.

Shipping.

The following statement shows the steamers and sailing ships inwards and outwards compared with the previous year:—

Flag.	Entered.				Cleared.			
	1907.		1908.		1907.		1908.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Steam—								
British ...	308	505,437	300	491,506	296	484,979	290	487,045
Foreign ...	166	206,477	189	250,695	160	197,634	188	249,464
Sail—								
British ...	2	670	2	666	3	1,110	2	666
Foreign ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	476	712,584	491	742,867	459	683,723	480	737,175

There has been no real decline in British shipping, the change in figures being accounted for by the alteration in the working of the ships.

The following statement shows the value of the trade carried during the year compared with the preceding year:—

—	Southern Nigeria.				Porto Novo.			
	1907.		1908.		1907.		1908.	
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Entered	3,923,031	515,875	3,873,394	411,436	46,291	6,432	44,628	9,804
Cleared	3,232,395	970,309	2,557,045	852,243	51,082	111,618	44,008	117,444
Total	7,155,426	1,486,184	6,430,439	1,263,679	97,373	118,050	88,636	127,248

The value of the trade decreased during the last year, and although a larger proportion of the decrease fell upon the German shipping still Germany improved her trade with Porto Novo while British trade showed a decline.

Land Grants and General Value of Land.

Up to 16th October, 1905, the majority of land grants on Lagos Island—of recent years— were made under the Swamp Ordinance by "Swamp Agreements." The Government sold a portion of an unfilled swamp to a private individual on the understanding that he was to fill it up to a certain level within a fixed time with suitable material, and, if the conditions were satisfactorily fulfilled, that he should then have a Crown Grant of the area in question. The following notice was published on the date mentioned:—"Intending applicants for allotments of Swamp Land in the Island of Lagos are informed that no further grants of Swamp Lands for reclamation purposes will be issued until further notice." Many of the old agreements have not been satisfactorily completed, and this system of swamp reclamation has proved a complete failure.

On the 31st October, 1908, a notice was issued extending the limited period for the filling up of lands granted under the outstanding Swamp Agreements to 31st March, 1909. Under this notice a Crown Grant was issuable to each holder completing the said work within the prescribed time and upon payment of any monies due. The notice further proclaimed that all land which had not been filled up according to the terms of the agreement, on or before the above date, would be re-entered upon by the Government and possession taken of all buildings and erections standing thereon.

Leases of Crown Lands in non-swamp localities are granted from time to time, each case being dealt with on its merits. The rent payable varies according to the locality.

Leases of plots in the New Hausa Settlement, east of the Macgregor Canal, were offered to the late occupants of the old Hausa Lines (Section 8, Ordinance 13 of 1906) at a small rental, with remission of the usual fees for the stamping and registration of the legal instruments, but only about 48 per cent. of these people executed leases. Consequently a Government Notice, dated 29th July, 1908, giving the names of those who had made no application and limiting the time in which claims would be considered to the 31st December, 1908, was issued.

Subsequently it was decided that plots still unclaimed after the expiration of the time limit might be leased to the general public at double rental and on payment of the full fees.

By Ordinance No. 16, of 1st July, 1908, a survey was directed to be carried out of Ikoyi lands, that part of the Island lying to the east of the Macgregor Canal, for the purpose of investigating ownership and checking encroachment. Land to which no good title could be proved would revert to the Crown.

The real value of land on Lagos Island and its neighbourhood is very difficult to estimate; so much as £2 (approximately) a

square yard has been paid for land on the Marina, the principal business thoroughfare, while even in the poorer portions of the town no land is obtainable at a less rate than 9*d*. to 1*s*. per square yard. There is much speculative buying of land, and the high prices now ruling are probably in excess of the true value.

The Supreme Court has recently—in proceedings for the acquisition of land for public purposes taken under the Public Lands Ordinance of 1876—fixed the present value of land in various parts of the Island and its neighbourhood as follows:—Victoria Road (the main trading thoroughfare of the native population) 4*s*. per square yard; Offin Road (one of the swamp-reclaimed areas between the Marina and Carter Bridge) 1*s*. per square yard; Race Course (the better residential quarter) from 1*s*. 9*d*. to 3*s*. per square yard according to position; Ebute Metta, within 1,000 feet of the railway, 1*s*. 3*d*. per square yard; and on the east of the Macgregor Canal at from 5*d*. to 1*s*. 3*d*. per square yard.

The great difficulty in arriving at any definite value is the fact that adjoining and identical portions of land change ownership at or near the same time at widely divergent rates, and so many of the purchases are merely speculative.

LEGISLATION.

To take the main new Ordinances one by one—

(1.) The Foreign Judgments Extension Ordinance provides for the transfer of judgments in the Supreme Court of the other British West African dependencies to the Supreme Court of Southern Nigeria for execution.

(2.) The Imperial Loan Ordinance provides for the borrowing of £2,000,000 for the purposes of railway construction.

(3.) The Lepers Ordinance was a very necessary piece of legislation; these unfortunate people were becoming a decided danger to the Colony.

(4.) The Post Office Ordinance provides for the carrying of mails by vessels not being packet boats or under contract to carry mails.

(5.) The Crown Lands Ordinance, though called an amending Ordinance, is really the first attempt to deal with this matter. This matter is by no means settled at present, and a further and more elaborate bill will probably be substituted at an early date.

(6.) The Firearms (Manufacture and Conversion) Ordinance is a necessary corollary to the Firearms Ordinance and the International Convention on the subject.

(7.) The Ikoyi Lands Ordinance provides for the demarcation of Crown Lands in Ikoyi Plain. The definite demarcation will take place during this and the ensuing year.

(8.) The Prevention of Diseases (Animals) Ordinance. Model rules to give effect to this Ordinance are being drafted in England.

(9.) The Towns (Amendment) Ordinance and the Public Health (Amendment) Ordinance.

These Ordinances were passed with the object of converting the Central Board of Health from an advisory to an administrative body. An Ordinance is now in the making for converting the resulting Lagos Municipal Board into a Corporation.

(10.) The Licensing Ordinance deals, on the usual lines, with hotels and bars. It will require amending in certain particulars.

(11.) The Infectious Diseases Ordinance.

This Ordinance is the outcome of the outbreak of plague at Accra. It is to be hoped that it will not be necessary to put it into force.

(12.) The Immigrant Paupers Ordinance was passed with the object of relieving the funds of the Colony or private charity of a decidedly unnecessary charge.

Europeans who became destitute were either discharged servants of Europeans firms or people brought hereby the steamship companies, who were obviously destitute when landed. In that it has not been necessary so far to put it into force, it seems to have had a salutary effect.

EDUCATION.

Up to the present time there have been three different Codes in force for the Colony and Protectorate, all of which were based on the English Education Code and therefore quite unsuitable for West Africa.

The new Code, which has not yet been approved, has been designed with the purpose of affording a liberal literary education combined with a useful and practical education, and provision has been made for awarding grants to vernacular, primary, secondary, technical, and agricultural schools, and training institutions for teachers. The vernacular schools, that is to say the pioneer schools of the interior, will afford instruction solely in the vernacular to children from the infant classes up to Standard II., and the subjects under instruction will comprise the three Rs, and object lessons in the science of common things.

The primary schools will afford instruction from the infant classes up to and including Standard VII., and in addition to reading, writing, and arithmetic, instruction will be afforded in colloquial English, the science of common things, drawing, shorthand or manual training, and hygiene.

In the secondary schools in addition to the ordinary subjects prescribed for Standards V., VI., VII. of the primary schools, instruction will be afforded in geometry, natural science, history, and geography, and one language besides English.

Technical Schools will afford instruction in particular trades or industries, whilst drawing and the three Rs will be taught.

Agricultural Schools will afford theoretical and practical instruction in agriculture and the manufacture or repair of agricultural implements, and, in addition, elementary instruction in the three Rs will be given either in English or the vernacular.

The Training Institutions will afford students a sound practical and theoretical knowledge of teaching on modern lines, whilst instruction in agriculture and manual training will not be neglected.

The schools under the supervision of the Education Department are of three kinds, viz., Government, Primary Assisted, and Secondary Assisted Schools.

The number of Government Schools at the end of the year in the Colony and Protectorate was made up as follows:—

Western Province	8
Central Province	23
Eastern Province	19
Total	50

The number of Primary Assisted Schools is made up of the following totals:—

Western Province	31
Central Province	12
Eastern Province	29
Total	72

The number of Secondary Assisted Schools is as follows:—

Western Province	3
Central Province	2
Eastern Province	2
Total	7

The increase in the number of Government Schools during the year 1908 amounts to 10.

The increase in the number of Assisted Schools during the year 1908 amounts to 11.

In addition to the Government and Assisted Schools there are a certain number of Mission and Private Schools not under the control of the Department.

The number of pupils under instruction in Government Schools amounts to 3,915, of which the totals for the various provinces are as follows:—

—	Boys	Girls.	Totals.
Western Province	630	48	678
Central Province	1,449	169	1,618
Eastern Province	1,559	60	1,619
Totals	3,638	277	3,915

The total shows an increase of 1,015 boys and 62 girls over 1907.

The number of pupils in the Assisted Schools amounts to 10,980, the totals for the various provinces being as follows:—

—	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.
Western Province	3,980	1,490	5,470
Central Province	1,518	124	1,642
Eastern Province	3,344	524	3,868
Totals	8,842	2,138	10,980

This total of 10,980 shows an increase of 947 for the year 1908.

The average attendance for the Government Schools amounted to 2,706, an increase of 775 for the year 1908.

The average attendance for the Assisted Schools amounted to 8,013, an increase of 960 for the year 1908.

The total number on the roll, therefore, for the Colony and Protectorate amounted to 14,895, with an average attendance of 10,719, an increase of 2,024 and 1,735, respectively.

There are no available statistics of the Private Schools of the Colony, but the number attending Moslem Schools is between two thousand and three thousand. Moslem Schools exist only in the Western Province, and the instruction is confined to the Koran.

The Secondary Schools, more abundant in the Western Province than in the other provinces, are merely the higher classes of the Primary Schools, where certain subjects not prescribed in the Code for Primary Schools are taught. With the opening of the King's School, a Government Secondary School, a higher standard of education will be set for the Colony.

In the Central and Eastern Provinces many schools possess gardens, but the agricultural instruction given is, as a rule, without method, and the attention of children is devoted to the growing of native crops instead of economic plants. With the assistance of the British Cotton Growing Association, and the Government Agricultural Department, cotton seed and cocoa seedlings are being distributed at the present time to school gardens.

Technical instruction in the Western Province is confined to Mission Schools and the workshops of certain Government

Departments, such as the Railway, Marine, Public Works, Survey, and Telegraph Departments, in which a large number of apprentices are trained as engine-drivers, fitters, joiners, carpenters, builders, surveyors, and telegraphists. To the Survey Department is attached a Survey School, where excellent work is being performed in training young men as surveyors and draughtsmen. The Telegraph Department also possesses a most excellent school for the training of telegraphists, and the system in force at this school is deserving of the highest praise.

In the Central Province technical instruction, chiefly carpentry, is given at seven Government Schools, but at Onitsha there are two Industrial Schools, controlled by the Roman Catholic Industrial Mission and the Bishop of Equatorial Africa, respectively. The latter schools are purely trade schools, where boys are apprenticed to a particular trade, whilst at the Government Schools technical instruction forms a part only of the school curriculum.

In the Eastern Province carpentry, coopering, woodwork, typewriting, and telegraphy are taught at the Bonny Government School, and these subjects form a part of the school curriculum; boys are also received at the school as apprentices to carpentry and coopering, and the learning of these trades forms the chief part of their education. At the Hope-Waddell Institute there were 21 apprentices being trained as carpenters, printers, and tailors, whilst 88 other pupils were in receipt of instruction in carpentry and agriculture.

The manual training given in the schools, poor as it is, is already bearing fruit, the majority of the present-day workmen who are natives of Southern Nigeria having received their initial training in the schools. The great difficulty, however, is the lack of educated artisans who are capable of teaching a trade systematically, and this can only be coped with by the establishment of a Government technical school.

There are no Government institutions for the training of teachers, but the Church Missionary Society has an institution for this purpose at Oyo in the Protectorate, and at the Hope-Waddell Institute at Calabar a certain number of teachers are trained for the Scotch Mission. At the Bonny Government School there are 12 pupil teachers under training, but, as these youths are teaching all day, little time can be devoted to their own instruction.

The expenditure on the administration and management of Government Schools amounted to £11,473 16*s.* 8*d.* The expenditure incurred in grants to Assisted Schools amounted to £7,812 18*s.* 9*d.*

The above expenditure does not include the sum of £701 5*s.* 8*d.* incurred on behalf of technical scholarships, celebration of Victoria Day, &c., nor the sum of £1,380 for extraordinary works in respect of Government Schools in the Central Province.

The amount paid into revenue by the Department amounted to £3,124 6*s.* 10*d.* This sum includes school fees, sale of books, and chiefs' subscriptions.

POLICE.

The authorised establishment on the 31st of December, 1908, was 1,131—a decrease of 59, owing to the Department ceasing to perform any prison duties. The actual strength was 1,121, consisting of:—

European staff	11
Native staff	18
Rank and file	1,092
	1,121

The allocation was as follows:—

—	Western Province.	Central Province.	Eastern Province.	Total.
Authorised	560	231	340	1,131
Actual	556	231	334	1,121

During the year three additional detachments were formed at the new Stations of Ibi and Abakaliki in the Eastern Province, and Udi in the Central Province.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of persons apprehended or summoned before all the Courts was 7,634, dealt with as under:—

—	Western Province.	Central Province.	Eastern Province.	Total.
Discharged for want of prosecution or for want of evidence.	222	41	154	417
Discharged on the merits... ...	323	291	674	1,288
Summarily convicted	2,619	623	2,214	5,456
Committed for trial	59	139	275	473
Total	3,223	1,094	3,317	7,634

The number of summary convictions was 5,251, of which 748 were for offences against the person, 9 for malicious injuries to property, 77 for cattle stealing and arson, 1,281 for other offences against property, and 3,136 for other minor offences.

In the Superior Courts there were 254 convictions and 129 acquittals; particulars are as under:—

Offences.	Convictions.				Acquittals.			
	Western Province.	Central Province.	Eastern Province.	Total.	Western Province.	Central Province.	Eastern Province.	Total.
Murder	3	26	48	77	7	15	58	80
Manslaughter	4	22	17	43	4	4	1	9
Attempt at murder	—	2	11	13	—	1	1	2
Rape	3	4	10	17	3	—	5	8
Offences against the person ...	2	2	9	13	1	2	—	3
Cattle stealing and arson ...	1	—	1	2	1	—	1	2
Other offences against property.	14	39	17	70	1	15	2	18
Unnatural crimes	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous offences ...	5	9	4	18	5	2	—	7
Total	33	104	117	254	22	39	68	129

PRISONS.

There are 38 prisons in Southern Nigeria, and in 1908 there were 17,326 prisoners. The district prisons are all in good repair, and Lagos Prison had a second storey built on "A" Block to afford more accommodation. Calabar Prison has also been improved in its ventilation and water system.

The health of the prisoners has not been good, the chief complaint being bowel troubles. There was an outbreak of varicella in some of the prisons, but the spread of it was arrested by prompt attention. The new dietary now in force in the Central and Eastern Provinces has been attended by gratifying results.

The work performed during the year by the prisoners has been satisfactory. They were engaged in grass cutting, swamp filling, road making, sanitary work on the European reservation, &c.

The usual industrial work has been carried out at Lagos and Calabar Prisons, the cash earned amounting to £478.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

At the Lagos Hospital 1,298 natives and 149 Europeans were treated as in-patients, and 4,575 natives as out-patients. 289 surgical operations were performed. The daily average number of Europeans in ward was four. The death-rate of Europeans admitted was 2·6 per cent.

At Calabar, in the European Hospital, 127 patients were treated, with 4 deaths; the death-rate being therefore 3·1 per cent. In the Native Hospital, Calabar, 1,087 in-patients and 3,470 out-patients were treated; the deaths among the former numbered 41.

At Onitsha European Hospital 34 in-patients were treated, with 1 death; a death-rate of 2·9 per cent. In the Native Hospital, Onitsha, 468 in-patients were treated (with 68 deaths), and 1,736 out-patients.

In the Yaba Leper Asylum, Western Province, 26 cases were treated, with 5 deaths.

In the Onitsha Leper Asylum, Central Province, 27 cases were treated, with 7 deaths.

In the Yaba Lunatic Asylum, Western Province, there were 25 patients treated, of whom 2 died and 3 recovered.

In the Lunatic Asylum at Calabar in the Eastern Province there were 15 patients treated, of whom 6 died and 2 recovered.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

The estimated population of Lagos and Ebute-Metta (its suburb) was 58,215, and the European population of Lagos and Ebute-Metta (Railway) 591.

Estimated Native Population.

Western Province	2,200,000
Eastern Province	2,500,000
Central Province	2,000,000

General State of Public Health.

On the whole satisfactory, and showing steady improvement among European residents.

In Lagos there were 9 deaths among Europeans, 2 from blackwater fever (1 official and 1 non-official), 2 from malarial fever (non-officials), 1 from dysentery, 1 from liver abscess, and the others from non-climatic causes.

In the Central Province there were 9 deaths among Europeans, 2 from blackwater fever (1 official and 1 non-official), 5 from

malarial fever (3 non-officials, and 2 on ships in ports, non-residents), and 1 from dysentery.

In the Eastern Province there were 5 deaths among Europeans, 2 from blackwater fever (1 official and 1 non-official), and 1 from malarial fever (non-official).

Sanitation and Anti-Malarial Work.

Sanitation was carried on in the usual way.

In addition to the continued reclamation of swampy and low-lying regions, the gradual increase of good roads in Lagos Town is one of the important aids to the sanitation of the town to be noted.

Usual anti-malarial precautions have been in no degree relaxed in all the districts in the Provinces. They are, the regular use of quinine as a prophylactic among Europeans; destruction of mosquito breeding-places, with oiling of such water collections as cannot be drained; drainage and reclamation of swamp areas when possible; use of mosquito nets; clearing away "bush"; use of wire gauze for rooms and houses; use of quinine prophylaxis among such natives as will take the drug; and teaching and advice to all.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SYSTEM.

There has been a further increase recorded in postal business transacted during the year under review, as compared with previous years.

An increase of 186,000 is shown in the number of articles, exclusive of parcels, passing through the post. The total number of parcels dealt with during the year was 1,125 in excess of the previous year's transactions. There has also been an increase of 25,592 in the number of registered articles dealt with.

A system of direct exchange of money orders between this Colony and German West African Colonies was arranged and came into operation on 1st April.

The cash on delivery system, under which articles may be imported by post and paid for on delivery, was introduced and came into operation on 1st October, and is being well patronized.

There is a further decrease to the extent of £19,249 recorded in money order transactions, whilst postal order business shows an increase of £33,532.

There was an increase of 48·5 per cent. in the number of telegrams dealt with in 1908 as compared with 1907.

A telephone exchange was established at Calabar and the telephone system at Lagos reconstructed. Telephone systems were established also at Abeokuta, Warri, Afikpo, and Obubra Hill.

The following lines were constructed during the year:—

Oshogbo-Ilorin, 61 miles,
Awka-Udi, 36 miles,
Ikot Ekpene-Erriam, 14 miles,
and 9 miles of the Agbor-Ubiaja section.

RAILWAY.

The gross revenue of the Lagos Railway for the year amounted to £146,382, the working expenses to £103,425, and the net revenue to £42,957, which was considerably less than in 1907. The causes are divisible under two main heads (*a*) temporary, *i.e.*, affecting 1908 only, and (*b*) those which may be expected to influence other years. The former includes the general slackness of trade which prevailed during 1908 and the partial failure of the cotton crop. The latter and more permanent causes are attributable to the extensions. The new lines above Oshogbo cannot be expected to be remunerative for some years to come, and consequently as they are completed and opened for traffic the net results of working will be adversely affected.

The number of passengers carried in 1908 was 212,748, yielding £28,829, compared with 188,419 carried and £24,872 earned in 1907. The number of 3rd class passengers carried was 204,381, or an increase of 23,280 compared with the previous year. These satisfactory results of the 3rd class traffic justify further facilities being given to passengers, and improved rolling stock with lavatory conveniences is on order.

The tonnage of goods conveyed was 109,356, and the income derived therefrom £109,128, compared with 82,900 tons in 1907 producing £107,224. Of the total increase of 26,456 tons, 17,073 represents stone hauled for the Harbour Works, and there was an increase of 10,751 tons in materials carried for railway construction. There was a general decline in public traffic, the most notable items of decrease being palm kernels and cotton. Maize, however, showed a large increase of 6,187 tons, the total quantity carried to the terminus for export being 7,627 tons.

Oyo-Ibadan Motor Service.

This was maintained during the year, and five vans are now employed on the service.

1,086 tons and 1,620 passengers were carried during the year.

WATERWAYS.

Waterway clearing work has been carried out throughout the year in the three provinces.

In the Western Province, the sudd-cutting work in the waterways between Benin River and Lagos was undertaken for nearly nine months, and navigation throughout these waterways has been facilitated, to the advantage of the firms holding timber concessions in the districts affected. Clearing work of a minor nature was also undertaken in the Yewa River and the Agboyi Creek, the latter leading into the Ogun River.

In the Central Province the Niger, Ossiomo, Osse, and Ethiope Rivers were cleared and opened up.

In the Eastern Province the Imo River and its tributaries the Otaminie and the Sombreiro Rivers were also cleared and opened up for traffic. During the year a creek route connecting the Calabar and Kwa Ibo Rivers was discovered. Several miles of this route in the dry season consist of mud and roots, and are partly blocked by snags and fallen trees; a party has already started cutting a canal, which when completed will allow of water communication for small craft right from east to west of the Colony and Protectorate.

Marine Services.

In the Western Province there are three services:—

(i.) Lagos—Porto Novo Service. The usual weekly mail and passenger service between Lagos and Porto Novo is still in operation; the number of passengers carried during the year was 2,317, a decrease of 468 on the previous year. This decrease is very difficult to account for.

(ii.) Lagos—Siluko—Sapele; a similar service to the above. It was found necessary during the year to extend this service to Sapele in the Central Province. This has facilitated communication between Headquarters and the Central Province. The number of passengers carried was 2,332, an increase of 261 on the previous year.

(iii.) Lagos—Ejirin—Epe. This service was started in the month of August with a view to assisting the natives trading between Lagos, Ejirin, and Epe. The total number of passengers carried was 846.

In the Central Province the transport of passengers and stores for Southern Nigeria stations on the Niger River is performed by the Government stern-wheeler "Raven." Small launches ply also between Forcados, Warri, and Sapele. Special transport work is also being done in connection with the landing and transporting of railway materials for the Lagos Railway northern extension.

In the Eastern Province the transport service for the Cross River has worked satisfactorily throughout the year. The Government boat "Jackdaw" and stern-wheeler "Hornbill" started the wet season mail and transport service in the Cross River; the dry season transport was carried on by the motor canoes "Spider" and "Sandfly." Three new trading firms have established themselves at Itu in the Cross River.

A general mail and transport service is run by launches between Bonny and Akassa, calling at intermediate ports *en route;* a similar service is being run between Bonny and Opobo.

The above services are much appreciated by the general public.

SAVINGS BANK.

The Savings Bank was transferred from the Treasury to the Post Office, and the advantages of this institution have now been extended to the principal stations of the Colony and Protectorate.

Sums deposited in the bank during the year amounted to £23,294, as against £16,967 in 1907—an increase of £6,327—and withdrawals to £21,856, as against £14,169 in 1907—an increase of £7,687.

The Savings Bank held a total of £33,012 for 3,104 depositors on 31st December, 1908, as against £30,845 standing to the credit of 2,668 depositors on 31st December, 1907—an increase of £2,167.

A total sum of £27,350 has been invested by the Crown Agents for the Colonies in securities approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies on behalf of the Savings Bank.

Interest at 2½ per cent. per annum computed on the various amounts deposited during the year aggregated £729, of which a sum of £46 was paid to depositors who closed their accounts, the difference, viz., £683, being added to capital in favour of the remaining depositors. The amount realised by interest on invested Savings Bank funds was £835, the difference thus being £106 in favour of the bank.

ROADS.

Western Province.

Railway feeder roads have been kept under repairs.

The Ibadan-Oyo road has been strengthened and re-metalled.

The Ebute—Metta—Apapa road formation was completed during the year; bridges and metalling are in progress.

The survey for the Ikirun-Illah road (20 miles) and 5¼ miles of road, including three bridges, were completed.

The metalling of Lagos Town roads has been actively carried on. A steam and a motor roller have been ordered for road work.

Central Province.

In the Central Province several bridges were erected in the Kwale District. The deviation on the road from Benin City to Ifon Boundary was carried out.

Eight miles of road have been completed on the Oke-Omoduro-Ikot Ekpene road and temporary bridges erected.

A bridge at Ologbo is under construction. A large number of minor roads (bush roads) have been constructed and improved in this district.

Eastern Province.

The event of the year in connexion with this Province was the transfer in April of the control of the roads and bridges to the Public Works Department.

Under "Roads Extraordinary" the following are among the important undertakings:—

	Completed.
Odukpani to Uwet, and Uwet to Itu... ...	17½ miles.
Itu-Ikot Ekpene	7½ miles.
Erriam section	over 8 miles.

CLIMATE.

At the Lagos Observatory the mean temperature was 80·5°, the highest shade temperature was 94° in March, and the lowest 69° in January.

Highest rainfall—160·36″—was registered at Bonny (lat. 4° 27′ N., long. 7° 10′ E.), the lowest—17·85″—at Shaki (lat. 8° 41′ N., long. 3° 24′ E.), the most northerly station in Southern Nigeria.

The rainfall at provincial headquarters was:—

Lagos (lat. 6° 27′ N., long. 3° 24′ E.), 69·98″.
Calabar (lat. 4° 58′ N., long. 8° 19′ E.), 132·78″.
Warri (lat. 5° 31′ N., long. 5° 44′ E.), 104·05″.

Harmattan continued from 26th November, 1908, to 20th January, 1909.

The direction of the wind is generally S.W., except during the harmattan season, when, during early morning, it blows from N.E.

MILITARY.

The Southern Nigeria Regiment of the West African Frontier Force took part in the following operations during 1908:—

Northern Hinterland Patrol, from 22nd January to 15th April.
Ogoni Patrol, from 14th January to 11th February.
Agbassa Patrol, from 3rd February to 21st February.
Ikale Escort, from 1st July to 28th July.
Anglo-German Boundary Commission Escort, from 15th September to end of year.
Niger-Cross River Expedition, from 29th November to end of year.

A Reserve Force, with training centres at Lagos, Ibadan, Onitsha, and Calabar, was established during the year.

SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

In the Western Province there is little to report. The Ikales mentioned in the 1907 report maintained their attitude of opposition, and were visited in June by the Acting Provincial Commissioner with an escort of two sections. No fighting took place, and matters were eventually settled by the restoration of the Bale of Igbotako and the establishment of a court, an Assistant District Commissioner being stationed there for about three months. The Acting Provincial Commissioner also visited Ipetu, on the Ilesha District. This town was endeavouring to throw off the overlordship of the Owa of Ilesha, but the capture and deportation to Oyo of the ringleader put an end to this, and the district is now quiet. The Awujale of Ijebu, who had previously resisted the introduction of reforms into his territory, visited Lagos and signed a treaty accepting the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in cases of murder and manslaughter.

With regard to the Central Province, the Provincial Commissioner reports that "the past year may be described generally as having been satisfactory, no serious disturbances having occurred in any of the districts, although there were a few of relatively minor importance."

The Provincial Commissioner of the Eastern Province reports as follows:—

> "From a political point of view, the work accomplished during the year under report can be regarded with every satisfaction. A large area of new country in the northern portion of the province has been opened up and brought under control by the Northern Hinterland Expedition, which commenced its labours early in January and was brought to a successful conclusion in April, 1908. As a result of this expedition, the station headquarters of the Okigwi District (late Omoduru) have been moved further north and the district considerably extended. The districts of Afikpo and Bende have likewise been largely added to, and in the Abakaliki District the Political Officer has had little difficulty in opening up friendly relations with the tribes almost up to the boundary of Northern Nigeria."

IMPORTANT EVENTS.

Dredging operations on the bar, commenced in 1907, were continued throughout the year by the S.D. "Egerton." The bar draught for steamers, which had been 11 feet at the beginning of the year, was gradually raised to 13 feet, at which it remained, except for a period of six weeks, to the end of the year. At the time of writing the official bar draught is 14 feet.

A second dredger was ordered, and it is hoped still further to deepen the channel during 1909.

The work on the East Mole was pushed forward, and on the 31st December it had attained a length of 920 feet.

A Municipal Board of Health was constituted with powers to deal with all matters that may be necessary for the conservancy of the town of Lagos and the preservation of public health.

The extension of the railway was carried to a distance of 247 miles from Lagos (Iddo), and the following sections were opened during the year:—

Oshogbo (186½ miles)-Ikerun (199½ miles), on the 1st March.
Ikerun (199½ miles) -Ilorin (247 miles), on the 27th August.

The section between Ilorin and Jebba was being pushed on, and at the time of writing is in operation. The distance to Jebba is 307 miles.

In his annual report the General Manager writes as follows:—

"During the whole of the twelve months the work of extending the railway to Zungeru, a distance of about 120 miles from Jebba, on the River Niger, was being carried on by the Northern Construction Staff, but owing to the inadequate labour supply progress was unsatisfactory. That important undertaking, the Niger Bridge, was also commenced, and it is hoped that the northern portion will be completed during 1909. To link up the railway systems of Northern and Southern Nigeria, about 40 miles of line to connect Zungeru with the Baro-Kano Railway are required."

A new subsidiary coinage was introduced in March consisting of pennies and tenths of a penny, the former being composed of nickel and aluminium, and the latter of aluminium only. Although the new coins did not meet with ready exchange at first, their introduction is making headway, and as a result of the alteration in the composition of the tenths to an alloy of nickel a more rapid circulation is expected.

Further steps were taken for the delimitation of the Anglo-German Boundary, and during the year a mixed commission surveyed in detail the greater part of that boundary extending from Yola to the Cross River Rapids.

A scheme for the establishment of a water supply for Lagos was under discussion, and steps are being taken with a view to an adequate supply being obtained from the Iju River, about 18 miles from Lagos.

There were no important changes in the civil establishment of the Colony during the year 1908. His Excellency Sir Walter Egerton, K.C.M.G., was absent on leave from the 30th November to the end of the year, and during that period Mr. J. J. Thorburn, C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor and Colonial Secretary, administered the Government. Mr. F. S. James, C.M.G., Provincial Commissioner, acted as Colonial Secretary from the 5th May to the 10th August, during Mr. Thorburn's absence on leave, and also from 30th November to the end of the year.

GENERAL CONDITION OF THE COLONY AND PROTECTORATE.

Although the statistics of value of trade and finance indicate a falling off as compared with 1907, the year under review may be considered as one of steady progress, inasmuch as a large area of country was brought under effective control, and new stations were established at Udi, in the Central Province, and at Okigwi, in the Eastern, the latter superseding the old station and district of Omoduru. The Ibi country was patrolled and the position of the District Commissioner there more securely established. At the end of the year an area of 10,906 square miles, out of a total area for the Colony and Protectorate of 77,260 square miles, remained unexplored.

Several minor patrols have resulted in the further pacification of a large area; and the steady spread of civilising influence, the perseverance in a policy of closer intimacy with the native tribes, the improved means of communication—the outcome of the increased mileage of roads and telegraph lines, are noticeable factors in the rapid development of a country which only a very few years ago was represented on the map of the British Empire as a large blank beyond the coast settlements and a small portion of country in the Western Province and along the banks of the Niger and Cross Rivers.

The partial failure of the cotton crop was a source of disappointment, but in a country such as Southern Nigeria, where agriculture is the main source of livelihood and the keystone of prosperity, fluctuations in output are inevitable. With the evidence of greater interest in agricultural pursuits, so pronounced in the rapid advance in cocoa, cotton, and maize cultivation, Southern Nigeria can confidently look forward to a steady increase in its export trade.

The deepening of the bar channel, and the execution of the schemes for increased wharfage accommodation and the bringing of the railway into Lagos, should materially improve trade facilities and maintain Lagos in its position as the leading commercial port on the West Coast of Africa.

J. J. THORBURN,
Colonial Secretary.

9th October, 1909.

APPENDIX I.

Work conducted at the Imperial Institute during the Year 1908 for the Colony of Southern Nigeria.

Scientific and Technical Department.

Reports from the Imperial Institute have been made to the Government of Southern Nigeria on the following subjects as a result of investigations conducted in the Scientific and Technical Department, followed, when necessary, by technical trials by manufacturers and commercial experts. In many cases recommendations have been made as to the further action which is required in the Colony in order to develop the production of those materials for which there would be a satisfactory commercial demand.

Rubber.

A number of specimens of Funtumia rubber, prepared in biscuit form, were submitted for examination and valuation in comparison with ordinary Benin lump rubber. One sample, described as "Anyo" rubber, had been imperfectly dried, but was of good quality, and was valued at 2*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 8*d.* per lb., with fine hard Para quoted at 3*s.* 5½*d.* per lb. Samples of Benin lump rubber, received at the same time, were valued at 1*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* 11*d.* per lb. Three specimens of Funtumia rubber in biscuits from Benin City were of rough appearance but of satisfactory composition, and were valued at from 2*s.* 8*d.* to 3*s.* 4*d.* per lb., with fine hard Para at 4*s.* 6*d.* per lb., and Benin lump at 2*s.* per lb.

A sample of "Ubabikpan" rubber derived from *Clitandra elastica* was of very good quality and was valued at 2*s.* 8*d.* to 2*s.* 10*d.* per lb., with fine hard Para at 3*s.* 5½*d.* per lb. A thick rough biscuit of rubber from the Marodi vine was valued at 2*s.* 6*d.* per lb., with fine hard Para at 3*s.* 1*d.*

A specimen of rubber believed to have been prepared from *Ficus elastica* was of low commercial value, as, although of good composition, it exhibited poor physical properties.

Fibres.

Thirty-one specimens of fibres and fibrous materials were examined, and many of the samples were of very promising quality. Samples of jute fibre grown in Southern Nigeria were valued at £15 to £16 per ton; a sample of *Sterculia barteri* fibre at from £15 to £20 per ton; the fibre of *Eriodendron anfractuosum* at £18 to £19 per ton; the fibre of *Agave rigida* var. *sisalana* at about £28 per ton; and a sample of *Sansevieria guineensis* fibre at £28 to £30 per ton.

Cotton.

Samples of cotton from Ibadan and from Aro (Lagos) were examined and found to compare favourably with standard commercial samples of similar varieties. A specimen of "Bateson's hybrid" was considerably depreciated in value by the presence of stains, but if this defect were remedied the cotton would probably realise a very satisfactory price, as it possessed good length and lustre. The rough native varieties, particularly those from Lafenwa, Aro (Lagos), approached Peruvian cotton in quality.

Specimens of native cotton from the Ishan, Ifon, and Abeokuta districts were examined, but were generally not very suitable for spinning. A specimen from Agbede, Ifon District, was, however, of very good quality and was valued at about 5½*d.* per lb., with "middling" American at 5·05*d.* per lb.

Silk.

Silk cocoons of *Anaphe* sp. were forwarded for examination. The silk yielded by these cocoons was of good quality and might possibly be worth from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* per lb.

Oil Seeds.

A small consignment of Ikpan seeds was examined for comparison with a sample previously received. The oil from these seeds could be utilised for soap-making, for which purpose it would realise £21 10*s.* to £23 10*s.* per ton, whilst if found suitable for the preparation of edible fats it might be worth up to £30 per ton. It appears, however, that the seeds realise 3*d.* per lb. in the native markets as an article of food, and their export as an oil-seed would not, therefore, be possible at present.

A further sample of Dika nuts was examined. The fat from the kernels would have for soap and candle manufacture about the same value as palm kernel oil, which at the date of examination was £27 5*s.* per ton. Information had been requested as to whether the nuts are available for export in large quantities, and, if so, whether they can be collected, decorticated, and the kernels prepared for shipment at a cost which will permit of the kernels being sold in the United Kingdom at about £12 to £13 per ton.

A further sample of " Nsa-sana " seeds (*Ricinodendron heudelotii*) was examined and submitted to a firm of varnish manufacturers for technical trial. It was found that the Ricinodendron oil is intermediate in properties between T'ung oil and linseed oil, and that it would be superior to the latter for certain purposes. Information was requested from the Government as to whether the seeds can be shelled in Southern Nigeria and shipped in commercial quantities at a cost which will enable the kernels to be sold at about £10 per ton c.i.f. London. In this case it was suggested that a consignment of one ton should be forwarded so that the oil may be expressed on a commercial scale and technical trials made with it.

Specimens of oil berries of unknown botanical origin and a sample of the oil obtained from them were examined. The seeds appeared to be rich in oil and would probably be readily saleable. The oil was found to be a non-drying oil of a promising type, which might be valuable as an edible oil if carefully prepared. A further quantity of the seeds has been asked for in order that the oil may be fully examined and a commercial valuation obtained. Information regarding the botanical source of the berries has also been requested.

Food-grains.

Specimens of maize from several districts were examined and were valued at from 25*s.* to 26*s.* per 480 lb. c.i.f. Liverpool.

Samples of grey and brown millet were examined and submitted to commercial experts who valued the brown millet at 20*s.* and the grey millet at 22*s.* per 480 lb. c.i.f. London, but recommended the shipment of a small consignment of the grain in order that a more accurate valuation might be arrived at. It appears from the local prices of the grains, however, that they could not be exported at a profit under present conditions.

Ginger.

A sample of undecorticated ginger which was examined was clean, dry, well-prepared, and possessed a good aroma. It was valued at 48*s.* to 50*s.* per cwt.

Resins.

Three samples of elemi were examined and found to resemble Manila elemi in composition, but they were darker in colour, dirtier, and con-

tained less volatile oil (4·4 per cent. as compared with 20 to 25 per cent. in good soft elemi from Manila). Manila elemi is at present worth 50*s*. to 70*s*. per cwt., but the demand for elemi of any kind is very restricted.

Dyes.

Samples of camwood stem and of camwood cake stated to be derived from *Baphia nitida* were examined. The formation of the red dye was asserted to be due to the growth of a fungus, but no fungoid growth could be detected in the wood. Further samples of the dyewoods of *Pterocarpus tinctorius* and *Baphia nitida* have been asked for, for the purpose of comparative examination.

A sample of annatto seed was precisely similar to a sample from Southern Nigeria examined at the Imperial Institute in 1906. The value was 3½*d*. per lb.

Tobacco.

Two samples of tobacco grown by natives in Ibadan were examined. It rarely happens that tobacco grown and prepared by natives is suitable for consumption by Europeans, and it was scarcely to be expected that this tobacco would be found to be saleable in this country. The results of the examination, however, show that tobacco of good quality could probably be grown in Ibadan, and that it would be worth while to institute cultivation experiments under expert supervision.

Medicinal Plants.

The fruit of *Tetrapleura thoningii* were examined and the pulp from the pods was found to contain sugars, tannin, and a small quantity of "saponin." To the last-named constituent the detergent action of the fruits is probably due.

Minerals.

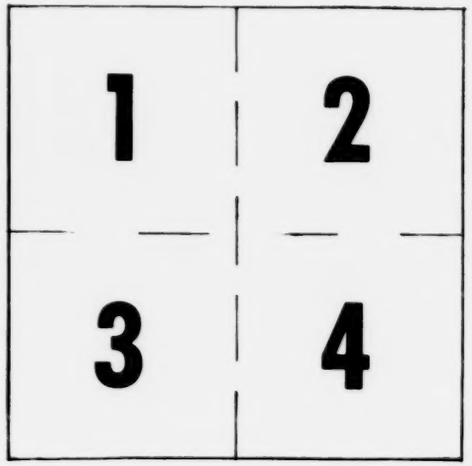
The work of the mineral survey was continued during the year, and a large number of specimens collected by the surveyors were received at the Imperial Institute for examination.

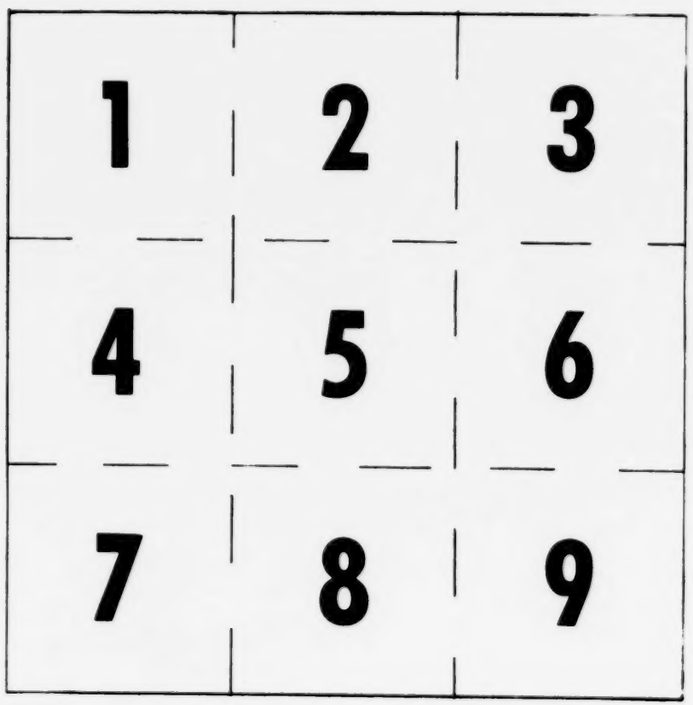
Exhibition Galleries.

The staff of the Colonial collections of the Imperial Institute rendered considerable assistance in arranging and labelling the Southern Nigeria exhibits which were shown at the Franco-British Exhibition in London in 1908. At the close of this exhibition all the specimens of economic products, as well as other articles from Southern Nigeria, were transferred to the Imperial Institute for addition to the Court, which, when the rearrangement now in progress is completed, will afford a much better representation of the resources of the Colony. A new showcase for minerals and a stand for timbers have been provided.

Mr. G. C. Dudgeon, the Inspector of Agriculture in West Africa, has rendered useful assistance in connection with the examination and exhibition at the Imperial Institute of products from Southern Nigeria. A copy of his report on the Agricultural and Forest Products of the Colony (1908), with the accompanying specimens, was forwarded to the Imperial Institute for consideration. Reports have been furnished from the Imperial Institute on a number of products collected by him, and recommendations have been made regarding subjects to which he had directed attention.

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.





Nº 478

OUTLINE MAP OF THE COLONY AND PROTECTORATE OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA 1909.

Scale 0 30 60 90 120 150 Miles

REFERENCE

- Railway constructed
- " under construction
- Telegraph constructed
- " under construction 1909
- " to be constructed 1910
- Headquarters of Administrative Districts
- Colony of Southern Nigeria

DAHOMEY (French)

NORTHERN NIGERIA (British)

WESTERN PROVINCE

CENTRAL PROVINCE

EASTERN PROVINCE

CAMEROONS (German)

ZUNGERU, Wushishi, Barijuko, To Kano, Kagherko, Bida, Patigi, Egga, Baro, Kaiama, Jebba 307, Shaki, Illo 24, Ogbomosho, Iseyin, Oyo, Iwo, Ede, Ife, Ilesha, Ikerun, Ila, Meko, Ibadan 123½, Aro 60, Abeokuta, Shagamu, Ikorodu, Ijebu Ode, Epe, PORTO NOVO, Kotonu, Badagri, LAGOS, Light House, From Accra (Gold Coast), BIGHT OF BENIN, Submarine Cable, Egbe, Kabba, Lokoja, Kotonkerifi, Loko, Nassarawa, Keffi, Lafia Beriberi, Wase, Amara, Lau, To Yola, Tunga, Ibi, Bakundi, R. Benue, Dekina, Ankpa, Katsena Allah, Owo, Ifon, Idah, Okwoga, Ogugru, Ogoja, Obudu, Ubiaja, Benin City, Agbor, Asaba, Onitsha, Awka, Udi, Abakaliki, Obubra, Ikom, Afikpo, Ediba, Sapele, Kwale, Okigwi, Oguta, WARRI, Abo, Owerri, Bende, Aro Chuku, Burutu, Forcados, R. Forcados, R. Benin, Cable, Ahoada, Aba, Ikot Ekpene, Itu, Uyo, Jwet, Oban, CALABAR, Oron, Eket, Degema, Opobo, Bonny, Akassa, Brass, Nun Entrance, R. Nigar Light House, R. Dodo, R. Middleton, R. Bonny, Fr. Principe, To Duala (Cameroons), R. Imo, R. Kwa Ibo, Cross R., Rio del Rey, R. Niger, R. Oshun, R. Kaduna, R. Cross, Aro Chuku

Printed at the Ordnance Survey Office, Southampton, 1910.

THE EXPANSION OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA, 1900–1908.

3270 W^t 28122-322-12-13/09

Weller & Graham, Ltd Litho, London

APPENDIX II.

Statement showing the importation of spirits into Nigeria during the five years ended 31st December, 1908.

Year.	Quantity in gallons.*	Declared value.	Revenue derived from duties.	Duty chargeable.	Explanations.
		£	£		
1904	3,190,339	277,300	479,846	—	—
1905	2,811,438	262,256	499,024	From 1st March, 1905, 3*s.* 6*d.* the imperial gallon, not exceeding 12½ degrees below proof by Sykes' hygrometer, and an additional ½*d.* for every degree or part of a degree in excess of 12½ degrees.	From 1st March, 1905, duty being charged on liquid gallons, the figures are so included in the returns instead of in proof gallons.
1906	3,321,903	301,738	600,784	From 22nd December, 1906, 4*s.* the imperial gallon, not exceeding 50 degrees by Tralle's Alcoholometer, and an additional 1*d.* for every degree or part of a degree in excess of 50 degrees.	Spirit imports amounted to 10·6 per cent. of whole inward trade.
1907	4,055,209	385,505	806,942	Same as 1906	Spirit imports amounted to 10 per cent. of whole inward trade.
1908	3,235,670	332,577	691,190	As above	Spirit imports amounted to 7·76 per cent. of whole inward trade.

* The quantity actually taken into consumption as shown for each year.

APPENDIX III.

Expansion of Southern Nigeria, 1900–8.

—		1900.	1904.	1907.	1908.
Railways—					
Miles		—	126	187	247
Passengers	No.	—	116,267	188,419	212,748
Goods	Tons	—	46,203	82,900	109,356
Receipts, Gross	£	—	60,336	139,747	146,382
„ Net..	£	—	6,942	65,312	42,957
Postal Statistics—		Not			
Letters and Postcards	No.	available.	978,928	1,738,308	1,923,904
Cotton Exports (Lint)—					
Weight..	Lbs.	24,080	1,148,551	4,089,530	2,294,356
Value	£	453	14,831	97,043	53,317
Palm Oil, Exports	Imperial Gallons	12,761,585	16,225,175	18,332,531	18,328,896
Value	£	681,296	929,170	1,313,960	1,154,933
Palm Kernels, Exports	Tons	85,624	139,788	133,630	136,558
Value	£	833,631	1,278,394	1,658,292	1,424 595
Specie—					
Imports	£	210,803	289,577	599,566	238,258
Exports	£	131,834	148,325	130,802	73,377
Telegraph Lines—					
Miles		263	608	1,281	1,434

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
590	Grenada	1907
591	Leeward Islands	1907–1908
592	East Africa Protectorate	„
593	Bechuanaland Protectorate	„
594	Northern Nigeria	„
595	Basutoland	„
596	Swaziland	„
597	St. Helena	1908
598	Gibraltar	„
599	Falkland Islands	„
600	Uganda	1907–1908
601	Imperial Institute	1908
602	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	„
603	Ashanti	„
604	Ceylon	„
605	Weihaiwei	„
606	Seychelles	„
607	Jamaica	1907–1908
608	Colonial Survey Committee	1908–1909
609	Gambia	1908
610	Malta	1908–1909
611	Sierra Leone	1908
612	Turks and Caicos Islands	„
613	Gold Coast	„
614	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1908–1909
615	Bahamas	„
616	St. Lucia	1908
617	Hong Kong	„
618	Fiji	„
619	Nyasaland Protectorate	1908–1909
620	Barbados	„
621	Trinidad and Tobago	„
622	Straits Settlements	1908
623	Somaliland Protectorate	1908–1909
624	Mauritius	1908
625	St. Vincent	1908–1909
626	Jamaica	„
627	Swaziland	„
628	Grenada	1908
629	Leeward Islands	1908–1909

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
56	Turks Islands	Salt Industry.
57	Uganda	Governor's Tour.
58	British Colonies	Fibres.
59	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1906–7.
60	Nyasaland Protectorate	„ „ 1907–8.
61	South Africa	Agriculture and Viticulture.
62	Uganda	Cotton Industry.
63	Imperial Institute	Gums and Resins.
64	Uganda	Botanical and Forestry.
65	Uganda	Sleeping Sickness.
66	Gold Coast	Forests.
67	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.
68	Do do	„ „ 1906–7.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 665.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

REPORT FOR 1909.

(For Report for 1908, *see* No. 630.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

February, 1911.

LONDON:
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No. 665.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

(For Report for 1908, *see* No. 630.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Lagos, Southern Nigeria,
5th October, 1910.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit two copies of the Report on the Blue Book for 1909.

I have, &c.,

J. J. THORBURN,
Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable,
The Earl of Crewe, P.C., K.G.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
&c., &c., &c.

(18158—2.) Wt. 31959—459. 1125 & 85. 1/11. D & S. A 2

FINANCIAL.

The total receipts amounted to £1,361,891, less than the amount estimated by £183,809, being a decrease of £26,084 as compared with 1908.

This total of £1,361,891 was made up of £406 derived from sales of land and £1,361,485 from all other sources.

The following statement shows the receipts under each head of revenue compared with those for the preceding year:—

Head of Revenue.	1909.	1908.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Custom Duties	987,571	1,014,583	—	27,012
Harbour, Lighthouse and Buoyage Dues.	2,159	1,947	212	--
Licences, &c.	20,378	18,280	2,098	--
Fees of Court, &c.	77,170	70,584	6,586	—
Postal Revenue	13,113	9,871	3,241	—
Rent of Government Property	2,128	2,068	60	—
Interest	59,540	30,471	29,070	—
Miscellaneous	5,697	92,478	—	86,781
Railway and Tramway... ...	193,729	144,699	49,030	—
Total	1,361,485	1,384,981	90,297	113,793
Land Sales	406	2,994	—	2,588
Total	1,361,891	1,387,975	90,297	116,381

The receipts from Customs duties amounted to 72·5 per cent. of the revenue received from all sources. The receipts from specific duties totalled £830,907, compared with £863,609 in 1908, while *ad valorem* duties amounted to £156,664, compared with £150,974 in 1908. The following are the percentages of duty derived from the principal articles on which duties of Customs are levied:—

	Per cent.	£
Spirits	64·75	639,500
Cotton goods	10·61	104,800
Tobacco, unmanufactured ...	9·91	98,000

The actual expenditure for the year chargeable to revenue amounted to £1,648,680, as against £1,357,763 in 1908; while further expenditure chargeable to loans (railway construction, &c.), amounted to £616,809, compared with £852,517 in 1908. As regards loan expenditure, the sum of £563,116 was expended on railway extension, and £48,374 on other works, whilst £5,319 was expended in connexion with the 1908 loan. The total sum expended on railway construction to the 31st December, 1909, was £3,121,697.

The total loans raised to 31st December, 1908 (£5,000,000), realised £4,792,596, from which expenditure amounting to

£3,291,542 had been deferred to that date, leaving £1,501,054 available for future expenditure, subject to further advances to Northern Nigeria on account of the Baro-Kano Railway.

The following statement shows the amount spent under each head of estimate during the year 1909, compared with the preceding year:—

Head of Expenditure.	1909.	1908.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Charge on Account of Public Debt.	206,174 19 10	112,939 4 9	93,235 15 1	—
Pensions and Gratuities...	14,212 7 10	13,475 16 7	736 11 3	—
Governor's Office... ...	8,028 17 0	9,189 12 4	—	1,160 15 4
Colonial Secretariat ...	14,878 0 4	12,801 13 7	2,076 6 9	—
Political and Administrative.	79,594 4 7	71,858 1 3	7,736 3 4	—
Judicial	11,930 7 1	9,759 6 1	2,171 1 0	—
Legal	3,403 18 2	3,084 14 3	319 3 11	—
Treasury	14,140 1 7	14,577 11 10	—	437 10 3
Customs	30,572 15 7	25,288 7 5	5,284 8 2	—
Postal	15,332 16 11	12,116 13 10	3,216 3 1	—
Telegraphs	25,646 13 0	21,249 17 2	4,396 15 10	—
Audit	8,178 8 10	6,368 4 3	1,810 4 7	—
Printing	10,086 19 11	9,431 19 7	655 0 4	—
West African Frontier Force.	96,694 19 0	98,689 19 5	—	1,995 0 5
Volunteer Force	2,437 17 4	1,786 6 11	651 10 5	—
Marine	106,435 15 9	118,780 16 9	—	12,345 1 0
Civil Police	42,252 2 7	37,915 13 10	4,336 8 9	—
Prisons	36,649 10 7	29,230 4 1	7,419 6 6	—
Forestry	11,834 11 2	9,969 0 2	1,865 11 0	—
Agriculture	10,485 12 4	8,264 18 7	2,220 13 9	—
Medical	60,943 18 9	55,193 10 7	5,750 8 2	—
Medical Research ...	690 0 0	—	690 0 0	—
Sanitary	3,302 15 7	4,456 18 1	—	1,154 2 6
Native Affairs	21,055 16 6	20,363 3 9	692 12 9	—
Education	22,834 3 5	20,325 2 2	2,509 1 3	—
Surveys	10,518 3 9	9,090 7 2	1,427 16 7	—
Mineral Survey	2,127 6 4	2,095 7 0	31 19 4	—
Lands	1,511 2 6	25,362 8 8	—	23,851 6 2
Laboratory	719 7 1	638 8 9	80 18 4	—
Rents	1,981 10 11	2,163 12 8	—	182 1 9
Charitable...	365 15 11	300 17 2	64 18 9	—
Transport	66,545 1 11	55,995 8 5	10,549 13 6	—
Motor Transport... ...	5,906 2 10	6,602 3 8	—	696 0 10
Contribution to Northern Nigeria.	70,000 0 0	70,000 0 0	—	—
Miscellaneous Services ...	39,338 19 2	24,277 19 5	15,060 19 9	—
Public Works	38,487 4 7	37,288 6 9	1,198 17 10	—
Roads Construction ...	7,154 1 7	5,817 6 11	1,336 14 8	—
Works and Buildings Annually Recurrent.	45,804 0 9	38,511 19 6	7,292 1 3	—
Roads and Bridges Annually Recurrent.	9,468 8 10	10,138 8 1	—	669 19 3
Railway	128,771 0 10	101,224 9 11	27,546 10 11	—
Tramway	2,661 2 0	1,939 10 7	721 11 5	—
Carter and Denton Bridges.	979 12 6	1,183 8 3	—	203 15 9
Works and Buildings Extraordinary.	167,936 0 0	142,542 7 8	25,393 12 4	—
Roads and Bridges Extraordinary.	38,498 11 10	57,102 4 3	—	
Telegraphs Extraordinary	14,703 15 3	17,937 12 4	-	
Marine Extraordinary ...	137,405 7 4	20,433 19 2	116 [illegible]	
Total ... £	1,648,680 9 7	1,357,76[illegible]		

The following statement shows the total receipts and expenditure for the last five years:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1905	951,748	998,564
1906	1,088,717	1,056,290
1907	1,459,554	1,217,337
1908	1,387,975	1,357,763
1909	1,361,891	1,648,680

The excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1909, was £375,761, being £286,789 less than at the close of 1908.

The banking business of the Government is transacted by the Bank of British West Africa, under an agreement entered into in 1894. This agreement, however, applies only to Lagos, and equal facilities are still lacking in the Central and Eastern Provinces. The competition introduced into the banking business in Lagos by the establishment of a branch of the Bank of Nigeria has proved beneficial to Government and the mercantile community.

TRADE.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1907	3,839,339	3,863,332	7,702,671
1908	4,046,572	3,335,911	7,382,483
1909	4,529,604	4,114,237	8,643,841

The above figures do not include either specie or Porto Novo transit goods and produce. They include, however, Government importations and goods and produce passing through the Central Province to and from Northern Nigeria.

The average total imports and exports, as above, compared with the periods 1901-3 and 1904-6 are as under:—

	£	
1901-3	4,268,661	(excluding specie)
1904-6	5,461,000	„ „
1907-9	7,909,665	„ „

Up to 1904 Porto Novo transit goods and produce were included in the Customs returns, and, consequently, the averages shown for the first two periods represent a portion of the trade of Dahomey as well as of Nigeria.

[illegible]ment imports into Northern and Southern Nigeria [illegible] were nearly a quarter of a million sterling more [illegible] figures for each year being:—

	£	
...	784,263	(excluding specie)
...	1,015,593	„ „

The increase is mainly due to the large shipments of material required for the Lagos Railway Extension and for the Harbour Works now in progress at Lagos.

Deducting Government imports and exports for each of the last two years, and excluding specie, the following figures show the purely commercial inward and outward shipments of Nigeria taking Northern and Southern together.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1908	3,262,309	3,334,175	6,596,484
1909	3,514,011	4,112,385	7,626,396

With regard to Northern Nigeria imports and exports, a record showing the value of goods and produce entering or leaving Northern Nigeria *viâ* Idah, on the boundary, has been kept since 1906. From this return it appears that, exclusive of specie, the Northern Nigeria commercial imports and exports for each year were as follows:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1908	186,704*	274,432*	461,136*
1909	171,581	264,361	435,942

Exports of tin ore from Northern Nigeria have fallen from £69,215 in 1908 to £26,871 in 1909, but as a set off against this the returns show a new export in block tin amounting to £5,000, an increase of nearly £7,000 in rubber and of £21,000 in shea-nuts.

Allowing for the Northern Nigeria figures as above, the following are found to be the net commercial imports and exports of Southern Nigeria:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1908	3,075,605*	3,059,743*	6,135,348*
1909	3,342,430	3,848,024	7,190,454

These figures do not include specie, Government importations, Northern Nigeria goods and produce, or Porto Novo transit goods and produce, and therefore fairly represent the net trade of Southern Nigeria.

* The figures given in the Report for 1908 were approximate—the above are actual.

This increase is due no doubt to the peaceful state of the country and to the fact that a much greater area is now under effective control. The abundant rain-fall and the good harmattan season in 1908 are, of course, other factors.

The following were the average prices of palm produce realized in the home markets in 1908 and 1909:—

	1909.			1908.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Palm oil	26	10	0	24	9	10
Palm kernels	15	6	6	13	9	2

Rubber and cocoa commanded a fair price during the year, especially towards the end, when the finer kinds touched 2*s.* 9*d.* per lb. and 57*s.* per cwt. respectively. The average price for rubber was 2*s.* 7*d.* per lb. and for cocoa 43*s.* per cwt.

Although there was a slight decrease in the revenue, this deficit has been amply made up by the very large increase even over the estimated revenue at the time of writing.

There was a most gratifying increase in the exports of lint cotton, 5,032,916 lbs. of lint cotton having been exported in 1909 as against 2,294,356 lbs. in 1908. In this connexion the following extract from the Trade Report for 1909 may be of interest:—

> "The writer of this review has in recent years endeavoured to ascertain the true position with regard to the chief staple line of trade—and possibly the soundest criterion in the import list—viz.: cotton goods, by obtaining from the merchants in Lagos, where over one half the total importations of these goods are handled, a statement as to the variations in the total value of stocks held at the beginning and end of the year. From returns so rendered by thirteen of the seventeen Lagos merchants applied to, it was found that their stocks of cotton goods in the aggregate were £17,000 less at December 31st, 1909, than at the beginning of the year. Assuming that the four firms who failed to send in returns were similarly placed, it may be inferred that the actual Lagos sales of cotton goods in 1909 was £20,000 more than the Western Province import total, or, say, £630,000 (first cost). The actual consumption of cotton goods in Lagos in 1907 and 1908 was, on the basis of the merchants' returns, between £530,000 and £540,000 in each year. It is of interest to note in passing that the average importations of cotton goods into the Lagos province for the three years 1901 to 1903 was equal to only £380,000 per annum and for the three years 1904 to 1906 £402,000. The average value of the imports of cotton goods for the whole of Nigeria was as under:—
>
> | | £ | |
> |---|---|---|
> | 1901-3 ... ... | 648,000 | per annum. |
> | 1904-6 ... ... | 762,000 | „ |
> | 1907-9 ... ... | 1,045,000 | „ |
>
> "Probably no sounder or more gratifying illustration can be given of the progress of legitimate trade in Nigeria than the above."

"*Palm Produce*:—Although the value of cultivated crops (cotton, cocoa, and maize) exported during 1909 was almost double that of 1906, palm oil and kernels contributed practically nine-tenths of the Southern Nigeria produce shipped during the year under review. The value of oil and kernels exported in 1909 was £290,000 more than the best year on record (1907), although, as already noted, the market price of produce was 10 per cent. lower than in that year. And in bulk, which gives the truest comparison, the exports of oil were over 4½ million gallons, or 24 per cent. in excess of the best previous year, whilst kernels gave a surplus of 22,000 tons over any former year since Porto Novo transit produce was excluded, say 16 per cent. increase. Taking both together, therefore, we find that the quantity of palm produce exported in 1909 was a fifth more than has hitherto been shipped from Nigeria in any one year. The following table shows the quantity and value of oil and kernel exports for the last 10 years:—

Oil.

Year.	Gallons.	£	
1900	12,761,585	681,296	Porto Novo transit lots included up to 1904.
1901	15,894,404	813,478	
1902	17,966,857	957,637	
1903	15,192,135	847,954	
1904	16,225,175	929,170	
1905	14,157,384	857,848	
1906	16,032,571	1,001,648	
1907	18,332,531	1,313,960	
1908	18,328,896	1,154,933	
1909	22,996,487	1,447,163	

Kernels.

Year.	Tons.	£	
1900	85,624	833,630	Porto Novo transit lots included up to 1904.
1901	114,046	948,010	
1902	132,556	1,274,487	
1903	131,898	1,094,349	
1904	139,788	1,278,394	
1905	108,817	1,090,054	
1906	113,347	1,193,939	
1907	133,630	1,658,292	
1908	136,558	1,424,595	
1909	158,849	1,815,967	

Excluding specie and foreign goods, 85 per cent. of the exports of Southern Nigeria consists of the produce of the palm tree. The following figures show the average quantity of palm oil and kernels exported in each period of three years since 1901:—

	Oil. Gallons.	Kernels. Tons.
1901-3	16,351,132	126,167
1904-6	15,471,710	120,650
1907-9	19,885,971	143,012

Porto Novo transit oil and kernels were included up to 1904, and, of course, unduly inflated the averages for the two earlier periods shown, more especially in palm kernels, which were passing through from Dahomey at the rate of 10,000 to 15,000 tons per annum.

The increase in the commercial exports of Southern Nigeria amounted to £788,281 and in the imports to £266,825. Despite this, however, there was a decline in Customs duties of £25,000, due largely to the shortage in revenue from spirits caused by the increased duties levied from January, 1909, the introduction of the licensing system at Abeokuta and Ibadan, and probably the unsettling effect on the native community of the appointment of a Committee of Enquiry to investigate the spirit trade in Nigeria.

The duties derived from spirits amounted to £52,000 less than in 1908, but the decrease was somewhat counter-balanced by an increase of £6,000 in the revenue from salt and of £20,000 from unmanufactured tobacco.

Deducting Government imports and Northern Nigeria goods and produce, the following were the net imports and exports (excluding specie) for each Province in 1909 as compared with 1908:—

	Imports 1909. £	Imports 1908. £
Western	1,564,335	1,464,992
Central	708,560	631,130*
Eastern	1,069,535	979,483
	£3,342,430	£3,075,605*

	Exports 1909. £	Exports 1908. £
Western	1,433,676	979,408
Central	951,053	758,229*
Eastern	1,463,295	1,322,106
	£3,848,024	£3,059,743*

	Total 1909. £	Total 1908. £
Western	2,998,011	2,444,400
Central	1,659,613	1,389,359*
Eastern	2,532,830	2,301,589
	£7,190,454	£6,135,348

The value of the trade exceeds that of any other year notwithstanding the interruption in the spirit trade which resulted in a decrease in gallonage of 150,000 and in value of £24,000.

* The figures given in the Report for 1908 are approximate; the above are actual.

The following quantities of the principal Southern Nigeria products, exclusive of palm oil and kernels, were exported in the last two years:—

Total Exports, 1908.—Rubber, 1,222,203 lbs., of which Northern Nigeria contributed 509,454 lbs.; Lint Cotton, 2,294,356 lbs., of which Northern Nigeria contributed 56,986 lbs.; Cocoa, 3,060,609 lbs.; Maize, 15,528 tons.

Total Exports, 1909.—Rubber, 1,388,009 lbs., of which Northern Nigeria contributed 449,345 lbs.; Lint Cotton, 5,032,916 lbs., of which Northern Nigeria contributed 140,080 lbs.; Cocoa, 5,019,150 lbs.; Maize, 10,163 tons.

FORESTRY AND AGRICULTURE.

For various reasons less travelling has been accomplished during the year 1909 than might have been desired. The Conservator examined the Illa country and sums up his account of the country as follows:—

> "Altogether this part of the country appears to be excellently suited for agriculture; the soil is rich, water is plentiful, and with the opening up of the tract by means of the motor-road now being constructed, there is no reason why it should not turn out to be one of the best."

The Provincial Forest Officer, travelling in the Eastern Province in the newly opened Obudu District, reports the existence of Landolphia in abundance.

Alteration of Areas.

No new Reserve has been added in the Western Province.

The Oban Hill Reserve has nearly been completed in the Eastern Province, and in the Central Province much preparatory work has been done towards the reservation of certain areas with the consent of the chiefs.

Regeneration.

Planting has been steadily maintained in the Reserves under schemes drawn up by the Provincial Forest Officers.

It is calculated that there are now 30,000 Para plants in the Eastern Province in addition to 10,000 seedlings sold to individuals. In the Central Province, 53,408 mahogany seedlings have been transplanted in the timber areas, while in the Western Province 25 acres have been planted up with iroko, teak, and other good timber trees.

An interesting development in planting is being undertaken by the Forestry Department in connection with the Lagos Railway, where strips of a hundred feet on either side of the line are being planted up with iroko and teak.

In the Government Mamu Reserve, the following plants have been added to the plantations:—

1,232 Para plants, 2,600 teak from Burmah, 600 teak from India, and 850 mahogany and padauk.

In the Ilaro reserve 6 more acres are under Para.

In the Oshun Reserve 1,200 Para, 350 teak, and 250 padauk have been added; in the Benin City District 154,100. Funtumia trees have been planted in the communal plantations.

It is calculated that private individuals now own 106,820 Para plants and seedlings in their plantations, and a great development is expected in this direction.

Interesting experiments in the measurement of indigenous and introduced trees have been made.

Exploitation of Major Forest Produce.

About 4,200 mahogany trees, of an estimated value of £47,006, have been felled for export and local uses, producing a revenue of £9,343. The industry shows a decrease as compared with previous years:—

	Logs.	£
1906	15,734 ...	56,942
1907	17,237 ...	62,834
1908	22,303 ...	77,054
1909	9,576 ...	47,086

This decrease is attributed to the poor prices obtainable for African mahogany. The merchants also have to go further afield to procure trees of the required girth.

Exploitation of Minor Forest Produce.

	Quantity.	Value. £
Fibres (lbs.)	1,117,301	6,168
Ivory (lbs.)	7,752	2,485
Rubber (lbs.)	1,388,009	109,075
Gum copal (lbs.) ...	48,061	706
Shea butter (tons) ...	308	5,230
Shea nuts (tons) ...	9,728	78,029
Ebony (tons)	281	1,239

Attempts to improve the quality of the rubber exported from Southern Nigeria have been rendered futile, owing, principally, to the unwillingness of the merchants to pay for the inspection and supervision of the rubber tappers and to the reluctance of the Government to follow the lead of neighbouring Governments and prohibit the sale or export of lump rubber.

The study of the palm oil tree and its hard and soft shelled varieties of fruit has been persisted in and it is hoped that some definite report may be presented during the year 1910. Commercially the hard shelled variety in the Western Province yields the best palm oil and kernels, and in almost equal quantities, the price being the best in the home market. Scientifically the most important problems that await solution in connection with the different so-called varieties of the oil palm are the answers to the questions whether these varieties breed true or whether

they are mainly hybrids, and, if the latter, whether they conform to Mendel's law or not. Trial plantations have been made, but these points cannot be ascertained till several years have passed, as the oil palm does not flower before it has attained the age of five to seven years.

The total export for the Western Province of the products of this tree (the hard shelled variety) in 1909 has been extraordinary, viz., over 67,000 tons of palm kernels and five million imperial gallons of palm oil.

AGRICULTURE.

In 1907 the value of the exports of cotton, maize, and cocoa was £184,342 and in 1908 £161,658. In 1909, in spite of the comparative failure of maize, the total increased to £220,927.

Cocoa.

The area of land under cocoa is increasing rapidly and will probably continue to do so. The shipments under this head have been:—

	lbs.
1905	1,057,987
1906	1,619,987
1907	2,089,225
1908	3,060,609
1909	5,019,150

Cotton.

In 1908, there were shipped from Southern Nigeria—cotton lint 2,294,356 lbs., cotton seed 5,591,979 lbs.

In 1909, cotton lint 5,032,916 lbs., cotton seed 10,756,777 lbs.

Maize.

In 1909, over 5,000 tons less in maize were shipped than in 1908.

Ground-Nuts.

In spite of the introduction of new seed and the help given by instructors from the Gambia, the Western Province exports little or no ground-nuts, although a good deal is planted and sold in the markets for home consumption. Such ground-nuts as are now exported from Southern Nigeria come from the Central Province and Northern Nigeria.

Economical Gardens.

A great number of plants including Para, fibres, and fruit were distributed from the different Gardens.

	Plants.
Western Province	36,000
Central Province	67,434
Eastern Province	22,267

In the Western Province, vanilla fruited for the first time.

Entomology.

The Government Entomologist gave lectures and issued reports, which have been much appreciated by the more intelligent farmers, on the diseases attacking the cocoa and maize crops.

Collection of Plants.

Eighty-three floral and other specimens were sent to Kew for identification.

Imperial Institute.

Many plant specimens of economic value were sent to the Imperial Institute and full reports of these were published from time to time in the Bulletin of that Institute.

Financial Reports.

The total receipts amounted to £9,286 5*s*. 9*d*., made up as follows:—

	£	*s*.	*d*.
Fees on timber	6,626	3	0
Rubber licences	1,947	10	0
Sales	712	12	9

The total expenditure amounted to £22,320 3*s*. 6*d*., of which £11,834 11*s*. 2*d*. was incurred by the Forestry Department and £10,485 12*s*. 4*d*. by the Agricultural Department, the deficit for the whole Colony and Protectorate thus being £13,033 17*s*. 9*d*.

Agricultural Show.

A very successful Agricultural Show was held in Calabar in November, 1909.

SHIPPING.

The following statement shows the steamers and sailing ships inwards and outwards compared with the previous year:—

Flag.	Entered.				Cleared.			
	1908.		1909.		1908.		1909.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Steam—								
British ...	300	491,506	342	474,261	290	487,045	334	463,559
Foreign ...	189	250,695	198	288,834	188	249,464	197	284,554
Sailing—								
British ...	2	666	1	417	2	666	1	417
Foreign ...	—	—	2	486	—	—	2	486
Total ...	491	742,867	543	763,998	480	737,175	534	749,016

The following statement shows the value of the trade carried by British and foreign vessels during the year compared with the preceding year:—

—	Southern Nigeria.				Porto Novo.			
	1908.		1909.		1908.		1909.	
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Entered	3,873,394	411,436	4,364,274	598,270	44,628	9,804	70,372	18,863
Cleared	2,557,045	852,243	2,925,223	1,243,938	44,008	117,444	118,763	164,776
Total	6,430,439	1,263,679	7,289,497	1,842,208	88,636	127,248	189,135	183,639

LAND GRANTS AND GENERAL VALUE OF LAND.

In the Eastern and Central Provinces of the Colony, only leasehold grants have been issued by the Crown. Such leases have been issued mainly to merchants for the purpose of carrying on trade. At present there are 10 of such leases in force in the Eastern Province and 57 in the Central Province. The majority are of recent date. In the Western Province Protectorate, the Crown has claimed no right of disposing of land other than that acquired for Railway purposes. Leases of land adjoining railway stations have been issued to various trading firms.

There remains that portion of the Western Province which formed the old Lagos Colony, and even here Government grants are confined for the most part to land at, or within a few miles of, Lagos. By a treaty of the 6th August, 1861, the Island and Port of Lagos with all the right and territories appertaining to it were ceded by King Docemo to the British Sovereign. Before the cession the land was vested in the Native Government, consisting of the King of Lagos acting through his subordinate chiefs. Subject to the approval of the King, these chiefs appear to have exercised the power of disposing of the use of the land. The assignee and his descendants obtained an inalienable right of user subject to determination in certain circumstances. After the cession, a commission was appointed to inquire into rights over land held by private occupiers, and where such rights were proved a freehold grant was issued. Such freehold titles were without doubt foreign to native ideas, and fundamentally different from the native assignment of user. Up to 1882 over 3,000 of such grants were issued; since that date freehold grants have been made in Lagos island, chiefly of reclaimed swamp lands, and in some cases in exchange for the surrender of old Crown Grants. At Iddo island and Ebute Metta, freehold grants have been issued of the allotments formed to receive occupiers of land acquired by the Government Railway. The issue of freehold grants has been discontinued.

Leasehold grants are still issued of swamp land reclaimed by authority of the Government. Building leases are issued at the Western portion of the old Hausa Lines site, and also of sites at

the new Hausa Settlement on the far side of the Macgregor Canal, ex-soldiers here receiving preferential treatment.

The value of land in the Central and Eastern Provinces is considerably less than that in the Western Province. In the latter farm land in the best agricultural district about 18 miles from Lagos has been recently assessed by the Supreme Court at £3 an acre. The real value of land on Lagos Island and at Ebute Metta is difficult to determine, owing to the growth of speculative buying. Probably the high prices given are in excess of the true value. Supreme Court valuations range from 4*s*. a square yard in the case of land adjoining the principal thoroughfare to 1s. a square yard and under in the poorer quarters of the town.

LEGISLATION.

The principal new Ordinances are:—

(1.) The Distillation of Spirits Ordinance, a temporary measure passed to prevent distilleries being set up before any provisions for their regulation had been made. It lapsed at the end of 1909 and its place has been taken by new legislation in 1910 containing simple regulations as to licensing and safeguarding the revenue.

(2.) The Jebu Ode Jurisdiction Ordinance, which gives effect to a treaty by which the Awujale granted to His Majesty jurisdiction to deal with capital charges and cases of non-natives in the Jebu Ode territory.

(3.) The Southern Nigeria Reservists Ordinance, which provides for the formation and regulation of a military reserve of time-expired soldiers of the West African Frontier Force.

(4.) The Children's Ordinance, which substitutes a sentence of detention during the Governor's pleasure for the death sentence in the case of criminals under the age of fourteen years convicted of a capital charge.

(5.) The Desertion from Ships Ordinance, which applies to the Protectorate. It contains provisions similar to those in force in cases of desertion in the Colony under the Merchant Shipping Acts.

(6.) The Lagos Municipal Board of Health Ordinance, which provides for the exercise of Municipal Government in the town of Lagos by a Board appointed to deal with such matters as the regulation of traffic and sanitary questions and assigns to the Board local revenue derived from various licences, such as spirit, bicycle, and dog licences.

(7.) The Seditious Offences Ordinance, which defines sedition and provides the penalty for it.

EDUCATION.

Up to the present time there have been three different Codes in force for the Colony and Protectorate, all of which were based

on the English Educational Code and therefore hardly suitable for West Africa.

The new Code, which will come into force in 1910, has been designed with the purpose of affording a liberal literary education combined with a useful and practical education, and provision has been made for instruction in the vernacular and English, grants being awarded to infant, primary, secondary, technical, and agricultural schools, as well as to training institutions for teachers. The vernacular will be employed as the medium of instruction in the infant schools, comprising the sub-standards and infant classes, and wherever possible a child will be required to read and write in his own language before he begins the study of English. The subjects of instruction will also include arithmetic, object lessons, kindergarten, and nature study and musical drill.

The primary schools will afford instruction from Standard I. up to and including Standard VII., and in addition to reading, writing, and arithmetic, instruction will be afforded in colloquial English, the science of common things, drawing, manual or agricultural training, hygiene, and moral instruction.

In the secondary schools, in addition to the ordinary subjects prescribed for Standards V., VI., and VII. of the primary schools, instruction will be afforded in geometry, natural science, history, geography, shorthand, and one language besides English.

Technical schools will afford instruction in particular trades or industries, whilst drawing and the three Rs. will be taught.

Agricultural schools will afford theoretical and practical instruction in agriculture and the manufacture or repair of agricultural implements, and, in addition, elementary instruction in the three Rs., given either in English or the vernacular.

The training institutions will afford students a sound practical and theoretical knowledge of teaching on modern lines, whilst instruction in agriculture and manual training will not be neglected.

The schools under the supervision of the Education Department are of three kinds, viz., Government, Primary Assisted, and Secondary Assisted, Schools.

The number of Government Schools at the end of the year in the Colony and Protectorate was made up as follows:—

Western Province	12
Central Province	23
Eastern Province	26
Total	61

The number of Primary Assisted Schools is made up of the lowing totals:—

Western Province	35
Central Province	13
Eastern Province	51
Total	99

The number of Secondary Assisted Schools is as follows:—

Western Province	3
Central Province	0
Eastern Province	1
Total	4

The increase in the number of Government Schools during the year 1909 amounted to 11.

The increase in the number of Assisted Schools during the year 1909 amounted to 24.

In addition to the Government and Assisted Schools there are a certain number of mission and private schools not under the control of the Department.

The number of pupils under instruction in Government Schools amounted to 4,571, of which the totals for the various Provinces were as follows:—

——	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.
Western Province	724	46	770
Central Province	1,667	168	1,835
Eastern Province	1,901	65	1,966
Totals	4,292	279	4,571

The total shows an increase of 654 boys and 2 girls over 1908.

The number of pupils in the Assisted Schools amounts to 14,014, the totals for the various Provinces being as follows:—

——	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.
Western Province	4,662	1,671	6,333
Central Province	1,612	54	1,666
Eastern Province	5,746	269	6,015
Totals	12,020	1,994	14,014

This total of 14,014 shows an increase of 3,034 for the year 1909.

The average attendance for the Government Schools amounted to 3,079, an increase of 373 for the year 1909.

The average attendance for the Assisted Schools amounted 9,378, an increase of 1,365 for the year 1909.

The total number on the roll, therefore, for the Colony a Protectorate amounted to 18,585, with an average attendance 12,457, an increase of 3,690 and 1,738, respectively.

There are no available statistics of the private schools of t Colony, but the number attending Moslem schools is betwe two and three thousand. Moslem schools exist only in t Western Province, the instruction being confined to the Koran.

The Secondary Schools, more abundant in the Western Province than in the other Provinces, are merely the higher classes of the Primary Schools, where certain subjects not prescribed in the Code for Primary Schools are taught. The opening of the King's School, a Government Secondary School, on September 20th marked the commencement of real secondary education in the Colony.

In the Central and Eastern Provinces many schools possess gardens, the attention of children being devoted to the growing of economic plants as well as native crops. With the assistance of the British Cotton Growing Association and the Government Agricultural Department, cotton seed and cocoa and rubber seedlings have been distributed to school gardens.

Technical instruction in the Western Province is confined to mission schools and the workshops of certain Government Departments, such as the Railway, Marine, Public Works, Survey, and Telegraph Departments, in which a large number of apprentices are trained as engine-drivers, fitters, joiners, carpenters, builders, surveyors, and telegraphists. To the Survey Department is attached a survey school, where good work is being done in training young men as surveyors and draughtsmen. The Telegraph Department also possesses an excellent school for the training of telegraphists, the system in force at this school deserving the highest praise.

In the Central Province, technical instruction, chiefly carpentry, is given at seven Government Schools, while at Onitsha there are two Industrial Schools, controlled by the Roman Catholic Industrial Mission and the Bishop of Equatorial Africa, respectively. The latter schools are purely trade schools where boys are apprenticed to particular trades, whilst at the Government Schools technical instruction forms a part only of the school curriculum.

In the Eastern Province, carpentry, coopering, woodwork, and typewriting are taught at the Bonny Government School, these subjects forming a part of the school curriculum; boys are also received at the school as apprentices to carpentry and coopering, and the learning of these trades forms the chief part of their education. At the Hope-Waddell Institute, apprentices are being trained as carpenters, printers, and tailors, whilst 16 other pupils were in receipt of manual instruction on modern scientific lines and 68 in practical and theoretical agriculture.

The manual training given in the schools, poor as it has been in the past, is already bearing fruit, the majority of the present-day workmen who are natives of Southern Nigeria having received their initial training in the schools. The great difficulty, however, is the lack of educated artisans who are capable of teaching a trade systematically, and this can only be coped with by the establishment of a Government technical school.

There are no Government institutions at present for the training of teachers, but buildings for a training college were to have been erected in the Western Province in 1910. This erection has been postponed owing to the estimated expenditure during the present year having been cut down. It is hoped, however,

that the scheme may be carried out in 1911. A similar institution is proposed for the Central Province and arrangements are being made with the Hope-Waddell Institute, at Calabar, for the training of teachers in the Eastern Province. The Church Missionary Society has an institution at Oyo, in the Western Province, for this purpose. A new scheme for pupil teachers has been introduced in the new code.

The expenditure on the administration and management of Government Schools amounted to £15,073 5*s*. 8*d*. The expenditure incurred in grants to Assisted Schools amounted to £6,921 16*s*. 8*d*.

The above expenditure does not include the sum of £839 1*s*. 1*d*., incurred on behalf of technical scholarships, celebration of Victoria Day, &c., nor the cost, amounting to £8,968 5*s*. 8*d*., of the King's School, which was completed during the year.

The amount paid into revenue by the Department amounted to £3,776 10*s*. 4*d*. This sum includes school fees, sale of books, and chiefs' subscriptions.

POLICE.

The authorised establishment on the 31st December, 1909, was 1,231—an increase of exactly 100, as compared with the previous year,—the actual strength being 1,216.

European staff	15
Native staff	16
Rank and file	1,200
	1,231

The allocation of the actual strength was as follows:—

Western Province	571
Central Province	266
Eastern Province	379
Totals	1,216

During the year three additional small detachments were formed at the new Stations of Itu, Abak, and Oron in the Eastern Province.

The strength of the detachments at Abakaliki, Ikom, Awka, and Kwale was very considerably increased during the year in order to relieve the military garrisons, which were permanently withdrawn.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of persons apprehended or summoned before all the Courts was 8,853, dealt with as under:—

Discharged for want of prosecution	675
Discharged on the merits	1,031
Summarily convicted	6,555
Committed for trial	592
Total	8,853

Of the number of summary convictions, 857 were for offences against the person, 15 for malicious injury to property, 13 for cattle stealing and arson, 1,446 for other offences against property, and 4,224 for other minor offences.

In the Superior Courts there were 310 convictions and 136 acquittals, particulars of which are as follows:—

Offences.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
Murder	92	80
Manslaughter	59	9
Attempted Murder	6	1
Rape	8	5
Procuring Abortion	—	5
Offences against the Person ...	38	8
Cattle stealing and Arson	3	2
Other offences against property ...	55	8
Unnatural crimes	1	—
Miscellaneous Offences	48	18
Total	310	136

PRISONS.

There are 40 prisons in Southern Nigeria, and in 1909 there were 20,100 prisoners. During the year all the prisons were inspected and they were found in good condition and repair. A new prison was built at Forcados on a better site.

The general health of the prisoners has not been too good, though the number of deaths has been fewer than in 1908. There was an outbreak of varicella in some of the prisons but it was stamped out by prompt attention and isolation.

The work performed during the year by the prisoners has been satisfactory.

The usual industrial work has been carried out at Lagos and Calabar prisons, the cash earned amounting to £925.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

At the Lagos Hospital, 122 Europeans and 1,519 natives were treated as in-patients, while 3,179 natives attended as out-patients. 346 surgical operations were performed. The daily average number of Europeans in ward was 3·5. The death-rate of Europeans admitted was 3·2 per cent. for the year.

At Calabar, in the European Hospital, 126 patients were treated. No deaths occurred.

In the Native Hospital, 1,186 in-patients and 4,114 out-patients were treated—deaths numbered 31.

228 Europeans were also treated as out-patients.

90 operations were performed.

At Apobo Hospital, 314 Europeans were treated as out-patients. No deaths occurred. 219 natives were treated as in-patients and 184 as out-patients.

At Onitsha Hospital, 50 Europeans were treated as in-patients. Three deaths took place, the death-rate being thus 6 per cent.

In the Native Hospital, 1,007 natives were treated as in-patients and 4,357 as out-patients.

In the Yaba Leper Asylum, Western Province, there were 16 cases with 2 deaths; in the Onitsha Leper Asylum, Central Province, 28 cases with 3 deaths; and in the Yaba Lunatic Asylum, Western Province, 19 cases with 2 deaths.

In the Lunatic Asylum at Calabar, in the Eastern Province, there were 14 cases with 3 deaths.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

The estimated native population of Lagos and Ebute Metta (its suburb) was 60,716 and the European 514.

Estimated Native Population.

Western Province	...	...	2,200,000
Eastern Province ...	...	...	2,500,000
Central Province ...	...	...	2,000,000

Public Health.

The general state of public health was on the whole satisfactory.

In Lagos there were 5 deaths among Europeans, viz.:—1 (non-official) from cardiac failure, 1 from collapse, 1 from phthisis with heart failure, 1 from malarial fever, 1 from asthma and bronchitis with heart disease.

In the Central Province, there were 20 deaths among Europeans: 2 from sunstroke, 2 from remittent fever, 4 from malarial fever, 3 from suicide, 2 from acute gastritis, 1 from accidental drowning, 2 from blackwater fever, 2 from heart disease, 1 from intestinal obstruction, and 1 from exhaustion.

In the Eastern Province, there were 8 deaths among Europeans, including 1 from suicide, 2 from blackwater fever, 1 from malarial fever, and 2 from exhaustion.

SANITATION.

Good work was again carried out during 1909, a large portion of the area known as the "Golf links" having been reclaimed and raised to a height of 3 to 5 feet by means of the work of the S.D. "Sandgrouse." Top-soil has been spread over the sand and grass sown. Laterite roads have been made in Lagos town and a good portion of the Marina has been macadamised. Granite has also been laid down along the Victoria Road, the stone used being procured from the Harbour Works quarry at Abeokuta.

Anti-malarial precautions have been taken in all the districts throughout the Colony and Protectorate, especially in the Central Province. The precautions are, of course, the usual ones: regular use of quinine by Europeans and the suppression of mosquito breeding places, particularly in regard to the dumping of old tins and pots left about in compounds and in the Public Works and the Marine yards. Good work in this direction can always be done by seeing that pieces of machinery are stacked in such a way that they do not become water-holding receptacles in which mosquitoes can breed. Where depressions cannot be drained, kerosene oil has been used. The proper use of mosquito nets has also been impressed, not only upon Europeans but also upon natives. To judge by the state of the mosquito nets used by the majority of officials a few years ago, it was a matter of wonder why they used a net at all. Numbers of houses, especially in places like Forcados, Onitsha, and Aboh, where mosquitoes are very prevalent, have been rendered mosquito proof, and no money, as the Governor has frequently declared, will be denied in affording this very necessary protection from mosquitoes to occupants of houses who desire it. The appointment of the two Sanitary Officers will, it is confidently expected, do much towards the improvement of present sanitary conditions and lead, it is hoped, to an increase of zeal amongst all interested to improve the conditions of life in Nigeria.

POSTAL.

There has been a further increase recorded in postal business transacted during the year under review, as compared with previous years.

An increase of 333,947 is shown in the number of articles, exclusive of parcels, passing through the post. The total number of parcels dealt with during the year was 16,942 in excess of the previous year's transactions. There has also been an increase of 28,231 in the number of registered articles dealt with.

The cash on delivery system which came into operation on 1st October, 1908, was well patronized during the year. 3,189 parcels were received and £3,748 was collected in respect of trade charges.

There is a further decrease to the extent of £25,104 recorded in money order transactions, whilst postal order business shows an increase of £26,783.

TELEGRAPH.

The widening of the clearing along the hinterland telegraph line from Oshogbo *viâ* Benin City, Onitsha, Ikot Ekpene, and Uwet to Calabar was completed and resulted in a general improvement in the telegraph service. The number of interruptions and the duration of faults have greatly decreased.

A telephone exchange for 25 subscribers was opened at Opobo and a small telephone installation was also established at Oshogbo between the Residency and the town.

The following telegraph extensions were carried out during the year:—

Reconstruction Aro-Eruwa Road, 28 miles.

Ilorin-Jebba, 61 miles, 3 railway wires.

Agbor-Ubiaja, 35 miles completed and office opened at Ubiaja. The line was extended a further 30 miles towards Egori where it will eventually connect with the Northern Nigeria system. A second wire between Warri-Sapele-Benin City-Ifon (110 miles) was completed.

Ikot Ekpene-Bende (38 miles). This line, which had reached Erriam in 1908, was completed and an office opened at Bende.

Bende-Afikpo (36 miles). This section was completed and an office opened at Afikpo.

Afikpo-Abakaliki. This section was completed and 24 miles constructed.

Eket-Oron. The old Eket-Oron route was reconstructed and an office opened at Oron.

RAILWAY.

The gross receipts of the Lagos Railway for the year amounted to £203,558, the working expenses to £131,820, and the net revenue to £71,738. Good progress was made with the large extensions under construction, the total amount expended on capital account being £259,958.

2. The number of passengers carried in 1909 was 285,203 yielding £39,579, compared with 212,748 carried and £28,829 earned in 1908. The number of third class passengers carried was 277,135 or an increase of 72,754 compared with the previous year. There was a general increase in public traffic, the most noticeable items being palm kernels, palm oil, cotton, cocoa, and kola nuts.

The tonnage of goods conveyed was 165,150, and the income derived therefrom £154,126, compared with 109,354 tons in 1908, producing £109,128. Of the total increase of 55,794 tons, 39,104 represents stone hauled for the harbour works, while there was an increase of 3,012 tons in materials carried for railway construction.

3. *Ibadan-Oyo Motor Transport Service.*—This service was maintained throughout the year; no additional vans were added

and, except on one or two occasions, the number appears to have been sufficient.

The expenditure was £3,147 11*s*. allowing for depreciation on rolling stock at 20 per cent.; and the receipts for freight aggregated £1,749 18*s*. 8*d*., passengers £301 2*s*. 10*d*., and miscellaneous £208 13*s*. 6*d*., giving a total of £2,259 15*s*. These results may be regarded as satisfactory, taking into consideration the infancy of this service. A second European firm opened a factory at Oyo in the month of August, with the result that competition between the new firm and the one already established led to a great increase in the transport of kernels. Other European firms, it is understood, are inclined to establish business at Oyo and Iseyin but, to enable them to do so, greater facilities will have to be afforded by increasing the motor service.

WATERWAYS.

Waterway clearing work has been carried out throughout the year in the three Provinces.

In the Western Province, the sudd-cutting work in the waterways between Benin River and Lagos was resumed for two months, during which period the existing launch channels were improved, and the east and west Mahin creeks, forming an alternative channel over a portion of the route, were also cleared.

In the Central Province, the Niger River was cleared of dangerous snags between Idah and Asseh, and five months' work in the Ossiomo River completed the clearing of this waterway to a point 155 miles from its junction with Benin River.

In the Eastern Province, the Otamini River clearing was continued well into the Owerri District, and the Sombriero River was opened for the navigation of trade canoes as far as Ikri. The upper reaches of the Imo River also received attention. Portions of the Moya and Aboynia Rivers, tributaries of the Cross River, were dealt with, while the work of clearing the bush and digging the canal which will eventually connect the Calabar and Kwa Ibo Rivers was actively pursued.

Clearing work of a minor nature was also undertaken in the Leefe, Henshaw, and Ikang Creeks.

Marine Services.

In the Western Province there are three services:—

(i.) Lagos-Porto Novo service. The weekly mail and passenger service between Lagos and Porto Novo is still in operation; the number of passengers carried during the year was 2,630—an increase of 313 on the previous year.

(ii.) Lagos-Siluko-Sapele service; a similar service to the above. The number of passengers carried during the year was 4,975, an increase of 2,643 on the previous year.

(iii.) Lagos-Ejirin-Epe service; a motor barge service running in connection with the Ejirin market, every 9

days, and carrying cargo between Lagos and Epe. The number of passengers carried during the year was 3,179, in addition to 1,306 tons of cargo.

In the Central Province, transport of passengers and stores on the River Niger, other than that dealt with by the regular Northern Nigeria transport services, is performed by the Government stern wheeler "Raven" and other craft, as required.

Mail launches ply between Forcados, Warri, and Sapele. The number of passengers carried between these ports during the year was 8,484, in addition to 857 tons of cargo.

Special transport work has been undertaken whenever necessary in connection with the landing and transporting of railway materials for Lagos Railway Northern Extension, but the railway itself now deals with the greater portion of this.

In the Eastern Province, the Cross River transport service has been regularly maintained and by means of the shallow draught motor launches, "Spider" and "Sandfly," is now continued without interruption throughout the dry season.

The number of passengers carried during the year was 15,743, an increase of 39 on the previous year, the cargo amounting to 5,210 tons, an increase of 830 tons on 1908.

The mail and transport services between Bonny and Akassa (calling at intermediate ports), and between Bonny and Opobo, have also been regularly maintained. The number of passengers carried amounted to 8,932, an increase of 1,326 over 1908.

Larger launches, with more accommodation for both passengers and cargo, are shortly to be placed on these services in consequence of the steadily increasing traffic.

SAVINGS BANK.

The amount deposited in the Savings Bank during the year was £22,891 against £23,294 in 1908—a decrease of £403. The withdrawals amounted to £23,634 as against £21,856 in 1908—an increase of £1,778.

The Bank held a total of £33,013 for 3,521 depositors on 31st December, 1909, as against £33,012 which stood to the credit of 3,104 depositors on 31st December, 1908.

A total sum of £30,350 on behalf of the Savings Bank has been invested by the Crown Agents for the Colonies in securities approved by the Secretary of State.

Interest at 2½ per cent. per annum computed on the various amounts deposited during the year aggregated £747 of which a sum of £60 was paid to depositors who closed their accounts, the difference, viz.: £687, being added to capital in favour of the remaining depositors.

The amount realised by interest on invested Savings Bank Funds was £906, the difference thus being £159 in favour of the bank.

ROADS.

Western Province.

Several existing roads in Lagos have been re-surfaced with laterite and granite, while new roads have also been constructed.

Ebute-Metta-Yaba Road and Yaba to Mushin Market Road have been formed and metalled to some distance beyond the Yaba Medical Research Institute.

Apapa-Ebute-Metta Road has been metalled and completed for traffic. Three bridges have been built, besides a number of culverts.

Iwo Station to Iwo Road—6 miles cleared and repaired and steel superstructure of two bridges erected.

Oshogbo-Ilesha Road—15 miles of metalling completed.

Ikirun-Illa Road—completed to the village of Ere, 7 miles from Ikirun Station.

Ibadan-Oyo Road—12 miles of road have been re-metalled and general repairs done, the road being maintained in serviceable order.

Oyo-Iseyin Road—Bridges over the Awon and Ogun and culverts, &c., up to Ogun River, 49 miles from Ibadan, have been completed, and the road opened to traffic for this distance.

Central Province.

Several deviations of existing roads and surveys for new roads have been undertaken; 26 culverts have also been constructed in connexion with Awka-Udi Road and extension into the interior.

The Warri Benin Road construction has been continued and several bridges have been completed, including the Ologbo Bridge, an undertaking of some magnitude.

Eastern Province.

Twenty miles of Odukpani-Uwet Road and 21 miles of Uwet-Itu Road have been completed. Eight small temporary bridges and a large timber bridge over Yako River have been built.

The old Oberetem Bridge has been dismantled and a new centre pier erected. Four bridges on Itu-Ikot-Ekpene Road were completed; 47 pipe culverts were put in; and the road was completed to the 21st mile.

Onia River Bridge has been completed.

A motor van has been used for metalling and gravelling the Itu-Ikot-Ekpene Road besides carrying passengers and bridge materials.

CLIMATE.

At the Lagos Observatory, the mean temperature was 80°·7; the highest shade temperature was 93° in March, and the lowest 68° in January.

The highest rainfall—165·97″—was registered at Brass (Lat. 4° 19′ N., Long. 6° 14′ E.), the lowest—12·31″—at Ifon (Lat.

6° 54′ N., Long. 5° 47′ E.), the most northerly station in the Central Province.

The rainfall at provincial headquarters was:—

Lagos	...	(Lat. 6° 27′ N., Long. 3° 24′ E.), 67·59″.
Calabar	...	(Lat. 4° 58′ N., Long. 8° 19′ E.),150·24″.
Warri	...	(Lat. 5° 31′ N., Long. 5° 44′ E.),104·07″.

The harmattan winds continued from 13th November, 1909, to 1st February, 1910.

The direction of the wind is generally S.W., except in the harmattan season, when, during early morning, it blows from N.E.

MILITARY.

The Southern Nigeria Regiment of the West African Frontier Force took part in the following operations during 1909:—

Niger-Cross River Expedition.—(continued) from 1st January to 10th April.

Kukuruku-Illushi Patrol, from the 15th April to the 5th June.

Afikpo Patrol, from the 7th June to the 17th June.

Anang Patrol, from the 11th May to the 6th July.

Udi Patrol, from the 21st September to the 31st October.

Ogwashi-Oku Patrol, from the 2nd November to end of the year.

Abini Patrol, from the 18th December to the end of the year.

SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

In the Western Province there is very little to report. The attitude of the people remains the same, they being a peaceful, industrious, and agricultural race. Towards the end of the year there was a very serious outbreak of small-pox at Abeokuta, and the Abeokuta people were very grateful for a loan of a European doctor with vaccinating staff. Very good work was done by the Medical Department assisted by a European Commissioner of Police, whose appointment by the Abeokuta Government is a very satisfactory sign of progress. It is hoped that the Abeokuta Government will also realise the importance of retaining the services of a European Medical Officer, especially in view of these very serious outbreaks of small-pox.

With regard to the Central Province, the country behind Asaba was disturbed for some months, owing to the attitude of the Ogwashi-Oku people. Although not appertaining to the year under review, it may be added that this matter has now been satisfactorily settled and no further trouble in that District need be anticipated. There was some little trouble with the town of Abagana in the Awka District but the position is now satisfactory. In the Onitsha District, the attitude of the people has been all that can be wished for and they are taking full advantage of the safety now ensured to their lives and property by the broad

and well-made roads and paths that have been constructed throughout the District.

The Provincial Commissioner of the Eastern Province in his very interesting report states as follows:—

"During the early months of the year under review the pacification and development of the country lying between the Cross River and Northern Nigeria boundary was continued by the military force under the command of Colonel Trenchard, D.S.O., resulting in the wide extension of Government jurisdiction and control in the districts of Abakaliki, Ogoja, and Ikom, and necessitating the formation of a new district with headquarters at Obudu about 80 miles north-east of Ikom and 30 miles east of Ogoja, practically leaving only the Munshi country to be brought under civilized government. In this direction everything that could be done by the exercise of patience and friendly overtures has been done by the Officer in charge at Obudu, first by Captain Fox, and since by his successor Mr. Weld, but without effect. Representatives of a new section of the Munshis have been in to Obudu but the situation is dominated by the Bayonga Munshis who have given practical proof of their hostility to the representatives of the Government and their contempt of the white man and those who associate themselves with him. These natives have yet to learn that the days of bows and poisoned arrows are numbered, and that they must live at peace with their neighbours, open their country to traders, and respect human life and property. To effect this transformation it is necessary that all doubt should be removed from their minds as to the power of the Government and the good and beneficial ends to which that power is exercised.

"Many instances may be quoted from the history of this Province which confirm that patrols and expeditions in areas where disaffection exists, though they may appear at the time unfortunate in their necessity, are attended in ultimate effect by the permanent establishment of relations fruitful in good results to the Government and governed."

IMPORTANT EVENTS.

Dredging operations on the bar, commenced in 1907, were continued throughout the year by the S.D. "Egerton" and the S.D. "Sandgrouse." The latter vessel arrived in the Colony on the 4th August, and is a great improvement on the S.D. "Egerton," owing to the fact that her hopper capacity is 1,800 tons on a 14′ 4″ draught, compared with the 1,200 tons of the "Egerton." The "Sandgrouse" can carry 2,000 tons on a 15′ draught and take this in in 50 minutes. She is so fitted that she can fill her hoppers and pump sand ashore for reclamation purposes; she can also pump direct ashore from the taking-in ground, if required. Considerable reclamation work has been carried out during the

year by these means, and it is estimated that 160,000 tons of sand were delivered on to the golf links with the result that some 20 acres were raised from 3 to 5 feet above their former swampy level.

The bar draught for steamers, which during 1908 had been raised to 13 feet for single-screw steamers, was 14 feet at the end of the year. At the time of writing, the official draught is 15 feet for single-screw, and 16 feet for twin-screw steamers.

The work on the East Mole was pushed forward, and on the 31st December it had attained a length of 2,429 feet, calculated from the wharf, an increase of 1,509 feet during the year. At the time of writing the length of the Mole is 3,320 feet. During the year 55,489 tons of stone were tipped.

No work on the West Mole was carried out during the year, but stores, offices, a smithy, and a small landing stage have since been erected, and 1,800 feet of bush cleared preparatory to laying rails.

The extension of the railway was carried to Jebba, a distance of 307 miles from Lagos (Iddo), by the 15th April, and the section from Ilorin (247) to Jebba (307) was opened for traffic on the 2nd August.

Work was continued on the trans-Niger section, in connexion with which the General Manager reports as follows:—

> "The trans-Niger extension was under construction during the whole year, but, owing to labour and various other difficulties, railhead had reached only 13½ miles beyond the north bank (of the Niger) at the end of the year. Progress was made with the North Channel bridge across the Niger, and at the end of December the land spans on the north and south had been completed, leaving only the centre pier and two connecting spans to be constructed during the coming low river season."*

An extension to Apapa in connexion with the stone trains was sanctioned during 1909, and earthworks were started on the 6th December, considerable progress being made before the end of the year.

The subsidiary coinage, introduced in the early part of 1908, is making steady headway and the up-country people are becoming more accustomed to the new coins.

The study of the Iju and Ilo Rivers in connexion with the proposed water supply scheme for Lagos was carried on by Mr. Peet, the Water Engineer, from August to the end of the year, and complete plans and estimates were taken home by him in March; at the time of writing the scheme as prepared by Mr. Peet has received the sanction of the Secretary of State.

The delimitation of the Anglo-German boundary from Yola to the Cross River was completed in March.

The changes in the Civil Establishment of the Colony during the year were as follows:—

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* Railhead had reached 61 miles in July, 1910, representing a total mileage of 368 from Lagos (Iddo).

His Excellency Sir Walter Egerton, K.C.M.G., was absent on leave from 1st January to 31st May, and during that period Mr. J. J. Thorburn, C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor and Colonial Secretary, administered the Government.

Mr. F. S. James, C.M.G., Provincial Commissioner of the Central Province, acted as Colonial Secretary during the Governor's absence on leave and also from the 27th of November to the end of the year.

GENERAL CONDITION OF THE COLONY AND PROTECTORATE.

It will be observed that, taking the Southern Nigeria exports and imports together, there is an increase of £1,055,106 in 1909 as compared with 1908, and an increase of £216,454 as compared with 1907, the record year until the one under review.

The progress made during the year may be considered very satisfactory, considering the large new area now brought under Government control and the very few native disturbances that have occurred.

The continued waterway clearing and making of roads, both of which have been in progress during 1909, are again great factors in the present astonishing development of the trade and resources of Southern Nigeria. It is difficult to believe that the Imo River is now safe for navigation to Owerinta, a distance of 103 miles, and that the Otamini River has been opened up nearly as far as Owerri in the Eastern Province, if one realises the condition of that river just above Akwete in 1896, when it was impossible for a launch to go further than Asa, while beyond that place not a single native market was established nor a middleman to be found on the river.

If the readers of this report will look at the map of the Niger Coast Protectorate as it was in 1896, and compare it with the most recent map of Southern Nigeria, they will realise the magnitude of the work done in opening up the country and rendering the great river from which the region derives it name safe not only to navigators, but, from a larger point of view, safe for the lives of the traders and others who now follow their vocations in peace without fear or hindrance from the up-country natives. Ten years ago, even if this waterway had been navigable for canoes, human life and property would have been exposed to the same risks as were incurred in traversing a native path in the district described; and it must be remembered that in those days a town, although it might be only two miles away from the next town, was almost invariably at feud with its neighbour, with the result, of course, that roads were closed to trade and in many instances inoffensive and unwary traders fell victims to the prevailing state of lawlessness.

In the Blue Book Report for 1908 reference was made to the partial failure of the cotton crop and the disappointment that was accordingly felt. It is pleasant to record a very substantial

increase in the exports of lint cotton during 1909, 5,032,916 lbs. having been exported, as against 2,294,356 in 1908. The appointment of a Director of Agriculture at the head of a separate Department will, it is hoped, have good results in an all round improvement from the agricultural point of view, certainly as far as the Western Province is concerned.

F. S. JAMES,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

5th October, 1910.

APPENDIX I.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

(South Kensington, London, S.W.)

WORK CONDUCTED AT THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE DURING THE YEAR 1909 FOR THE COLONY OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

Reports on the following subjects have been furnished to the Government of Southern Nigeria from the Imperial Institute as the result of investigations conducted in the Scientific and Technical Department, supplemented, when necessary, by technical trials by manufacturers and commercial experts. In many cases recommendations have been made as to the further action which is required in the Colony to develop the production of materials for which there would be a satisfactory commercial demand.

Rubber.—Two specimens of Para rubber prepared at Ebute Metta were examined. One sample consisted of light-brown biscuits, most of which were well-prepared and in good condition but of rather rough appearance. The rubber was of very good quality and was valued at 5*s*. per lb., with fine hard Para at 5*s*. per lb. and fine plantation Para at 5*s*. 1*d*. to 5*s*. 8*d*. per lb. If carefully prepared and placed on the market in good condition there is no doubt that the rubber would realise similar prices to fine plantation Para from the East, which it resembles in composition. The second sample was a mass of scrap rubber of mixed character, containing a considerable amount of vegetable and mineral impurity. On account of the presence of this impurity the rubber was of inferior quality, and was valued at possibly 3*s*. per lb. with "fine hard Para" at 5*s*. per lb.

A thin sheet of *Ficus elastica* rubber was forwarded from the Eastern Province. It was black and sticky externally, and deficient in strength, although of satisfactory composition. It was valued at only about 3*s*. per lb., with fine hard Para at 5*s*. per lb. If the physical properties of this rubber could be improved it would be of very good quality and would realise a satisfactory price.

Fibres.—A specimen of "Ramo" fibre (*Hibiscus* sp.) was not well prepared and was consequently valued at only about £10 per ton; it was stated, however, that if the root-ends had been cut off its value would have been increased to £11 or £11 10*s*. per ton.

A specimen of plantain fibre was of good length, but of uneven strength; it was regarded as suitable for mixing with Manila hemp and valued at about £20 per ton (January, 1909).

The examination of the fibre of *Triumfetta eriophlebia* showed that the product might be used as a substitute for the commonest qualities of jute, and might realise £9 per ton with first native marks of jute at £14 per ton.

Cotton.—A specimen of cotton from Ikem and Eleke was of very good quality and was valued at probably about 7*d*. per lb., ginned, with "good" rough Peruvian at 7¾*d*. per lb. Another sample of cotton

examined was of rough character, similar to Peruvian, and was worth about 7*d.* per lb., with "good" rough Peruvian at 7¾*d.* per lb. Samples of cotton seed and native-made yarn were also examined.

Oil-seeds.—Consignments of *Pentaclethra macrophylla* seeds, known as "Fai" beans, were received and were submitted to manufacturers for technical trial. The seeds yielded 30 per cent. of oil and were regarded as worth £6 per ton.

Cassava Starch.—A sample of dried and grated cassava was valued at 6*s.* to 6*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. for ordinary manufacturing use, whilst a firm employing starch for the preparation of glucose to be used in brewing stated that this granulated cassava might be worth £7 7*s.* 6*d.* per ton for their purposes.

Dye Plants.—A sample of the fermented leaves and stems of *Lonchocarpus cyanescens*, in which the dye (indigo) was fully developed, was forwarded for examination and valuation. In this form, however, the material would be of no commercial value in the United Kingdom. An account of the occurrence of indigo in this plant was given in the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute," Vol. V., 1907, p. 129.

Medicinal Plants.—The drugs examined included a specimen of so-called "bitter kola" from Southern Nigeria. The sample contained no caffeine and was therefore of no value as a substitute for true kola. The botanical origin of these "bitter kola" nuts, of which several samples have been received at the Imperial Institute in recent years, has not yet been determined. They differ considerably in appearance from true kola nuts and are not likely to be substituted for them.

Minerals.—A report on minerals received in connection with the mineral survey of this Colony was issued during 1909 in the Miscellaneous Series of Colonial Reports (Cd. 4995). The minerals of economic importance which are dealt with in the report include concentrates, lignites, and clays.

Agriculture in Southern Nigeria.—The report for 1909 of Mr. G. C. Dudgeon, Inspector of Agriculture for West Africa, on the Agricultural and Forest Products of Southern Nigeria, with accompanying specimens, was forwarded to the Imperial Institute for consideration. Reports have been furnished from the Imperial Institute on a number of products collected by him and recommendations have been made regarding subjects to which he had directed attention.

Public Exhibition Galleries.—Specimens of many of the above-mentioned products were added to the Southern Nigeria exhibits in the West African Court at the Imperial Institute.

12th May, 1910.

APPENDIX II.

Statement showing the Importation of Spirits into Nigeria during the Five Years ended 31st December, 1909.

Year.	Quantity in gallons.*	Declared value.	Revenue derived from duties.	Duty chargeable.	Explanations.
		£	£		
1905	2,811,438	262,256	499,024	From 1st March, 1905, 3*s.* 6*d.* the imperial gallon, not exceeding 12½ degrees below proof by Sykes' hydrometer, and an additional ½*d.* for every degree or part of a degree in excess of 12½ degrees.	From 1st March, 1905, duty being charged on liquid gallons, the figures are so included in the returns instead of in proof gallons.
1906	3,321,903	301,738	600,784	From 22nd December, 1906, 4*s.* the imperial gallon, not exceeding 50 degrees by Tralles' Alcoholometer, and an additional 1*d.* for every degree or part of a degree in excess of 50 degrees.	Spirit imports amounted to 10·6 per cent. of whole inward trade.
1907	4,055,209	385,505	806,942	Same as 1906	Spirit imports amounted to 10 per cent. of whole inward trade.
1908	3,235,670	332,577	691,190	As above	Spirit imports amounted to 7·76 per cent. of whole inward trade.
1909	2,950,111	308,770	639,503	From 15th January, 1909, 5*s.* the imperial gallon, not exceeding 50 degrees by Tralles' Alcoholometer. For every degree or part of a degree in excess of such strength an additional duty of 2½*d.* per imperial gallon. For every degree below such strength a reduction of 1½*d.* per imperial gallon. Minimum duty 4*s.* per imperial gallon.	Value of spirit imports amounted to 6·22 per cent. of whole inward trade, including specie.

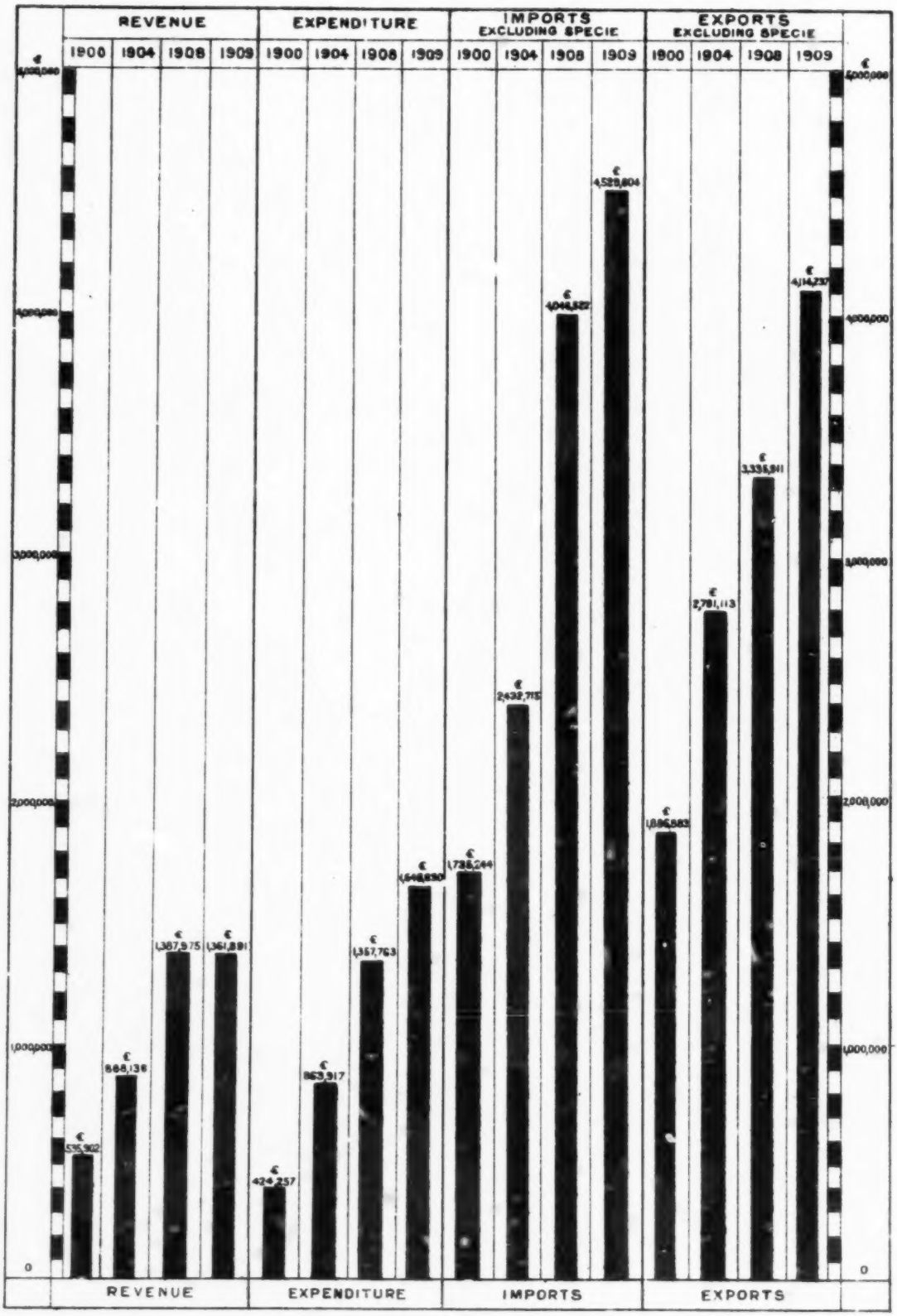
* The quantity actually taken into consumption is shown for each year.

APPENDIX III.

Expansion of Southern Nigeria, 1900-9.

——	1900.	1904.	1907.	1908	1909.
Railways—					
Miles Open	—	126	187	247	307
Passengers ... ... No.	—	116,267	188,419	212,748	285,203
Goods ... ... Tons	—	46,203	82,900	109,354	165,150
Receipts, Gross ... ... £	—	60,336	139,747	146,382	203,558
,, Nett ... ... £	—	6,942	65,312	42,957	71,738
Postal Statistics—					
Letters and Postcards ... No.	Not available.	978,928	1,738,308	1,923,904	2,159,864
Cotton Exports (Lint)—					
Weight ... ... Lbs.	24,080	1,148,551	4,089,530	2,294,356	5,032,916
Value ... ... £	453	14,831	97,043	53,317	103,270
Palm Oil, Exports... Im. Gals.	12,761,585	16,225,175	18,332,531	18,328,897	22,996,487
Value ... ... £	681,296	929,170	1,313,960	1,154,933	1,447,163
Palm Kernels, Exports ... Tons	85,624	139,788	133,630	136,558	158,849
Value ... ... £	833,531	1,278,394	1,658,292	1,424,595	1,815,967
Specie—					
Imports ... ... £	210,803	289,577	599,566	238,258	432,940
Exports ... ... £	131,834	148,325	130,802	73,377	54,924
Telegraph Lines—					
Miles	263	608	1,281	1,434	1,623

THE EXPANSION OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA 1900-1909.



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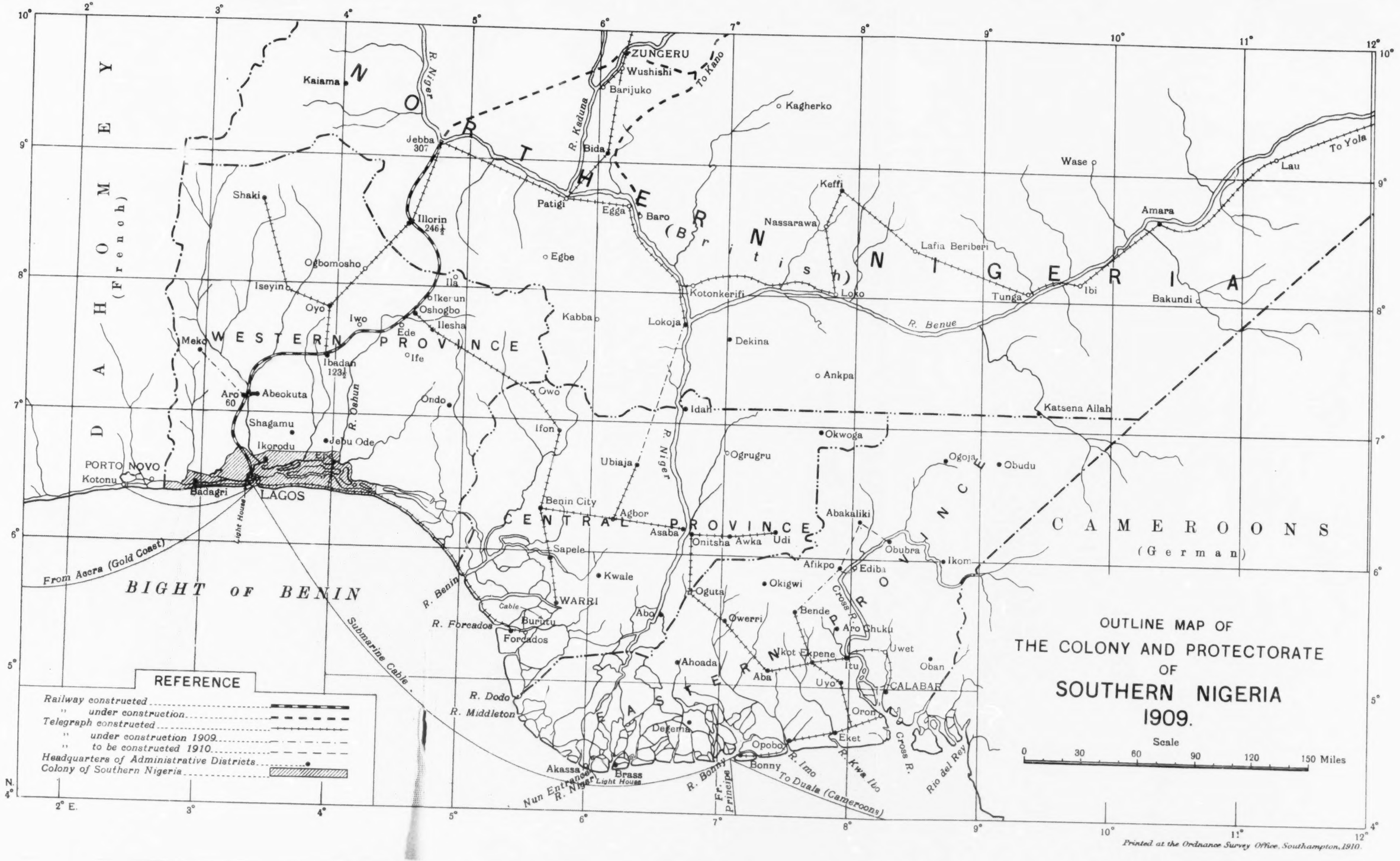
DAHOMEY (French)
NORTHERN NIGERIA (British)
CAMEROONS (German)
WESTERN PROVINCE
CENTRAL PROVINCE
EASTERN PROVINCE
BIGHT OF BENIN
PORTO NOVO
LAGOS
ZUNGERU
Kaiama
Jebba 307
Shaki
Illorin 246½
Ogbomosho
Iseyin
Oyo
Iwo
Ede
Ilesha
Oshogbo
Ilorin
Meko
Ibadan 123½
Ife
Aro 60
Abeokuta
Shagamu
Ikorodu
Jebu Ode
Ondo
Owo
Ifon
Ubiaja
Benin City
Sapele
Kwale
WARRI
Burutu
Forcados
Akassa
Brass
Nun Entrance
Light House
Badagri
Light House
From Accra (Gold Coast)
Submarine Cable
Cable
R. Niger
R. Kaduna
R. Oshun
R. Benin
R. Forcados
R. Dodo
R. Middleton
R. Bonny
Fr. Principe
R. Benue
R. Imo
R. Kwa Ibo
Cross R.
Rio del Rey
To Kano
To Yola
To Duala (Cameroons)
Barijuko
Wushishi
Bida
Patigi
Egga
Baro
Egbe
Ila
Ikerun
Kabba
Lokoja
Dekina
Ankpa
Idah
Kagherko
Nassarawa
Keffi
Lafia Beriberi
Kotonkerifi
Loko
Tunga
Wase
Amara
Lau
Ibi
Bakundi
Katsena Ailah
Okwoga
Ogrugru
Ogoja
Obudu
Abakaliki
Afikpo
Ediba
Obubra
Ikom
Okigwi
Oguta
Owerri
Bende
Aro Chuku
Abo
Ahoada
Aba
Ikot Ekpene
Itu
Uwet
Oban
Uyo
CALABAR
Oron
Eket
Opobo
Bonny
Degema
REFERENCE
Railway constructed
" under construction
Telegraph constructed
" under construction 1909
" to be constructed 1910
Headquarters of Administrative Districts
Colony of Southern Nigeria
OUTLINE MAP OF
THE COLONY AND PROTECTORATE
OF
SOUTHERN NIGERIA
1909.
Scale
0 30 60 90 120 150 Miles
Printed at the Ordnance Survey Office, Southampton, 1910.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
624	Mauritius	1908
625	St. Vincent	1908–1909
626	Jamaica	,,
627	Swaziland	,,
628	Grenada	1908
629	Leeward Islands	1908–1909
630	Southern Nigeria	1908
631	British Honduras	,,
632	British Guiana	1908–1909
633	Northern Nigeria	,,
634	Basutoland	,,
635	East Africa Protectorate	,,
636	Uganda	,,
637	Weihaiwei	1909
638	St. Helena	,,
639	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
640	Ashanti	,,
641	Gambia	,,
642	Malta	1909–1910
643	Seychelles	1909
644	Colonial Survey Committee	1909–1910
645	Falkland Islands	,,
646	Turks and Caicos Islands	1909
647	Gibraltar	,,
648	Sierra Leone	,,
649	Somaliland	1909–1910
650	Bahamas	,,
651	Tongan Islands Protectorate	,,
652	Bechuanaland Protectorate	,,
653	Ceylon	1909
654	Gold Coast	,,
655	Nyasaland	1909–1910
656	Imperial Institute	1909
657	Fiji	,,
658	Grenada	,,
659	Hong Kong	,,
660	Barbados	1909–1910
661	Swaziland	1909
662	Jamaica	,,
663	Straits Settlements	,,
664	Trinidad and Tobago	1909–1910

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
64	Uganda	Botany and Forestry.
65	Do.	Sleeping Sickness.
66	Gold Coast	Forests.
67	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.
68	Do. do.	Do. 1906–7.
69	St. Helena	Fisheries.
70	Colonies	List of Laws relating to Patents, Trade Marks, &c.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Surveys, 1906–7 and 1907–8.

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1911.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 695.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

REPORT FOR 1910.

(For Report for 1909, *see* No. 665.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1911.

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No. 695.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

(For Report for 1909, *see* No. 665.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Lagos, Southern Nigeria,
23rd August, 1911.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, six copies of the Blue Book for 1910 and also two copies of the Report thereon.

I have, &c.,

A. G. BOYLE,
Acting-Governor.

The Right Honourable,
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
&c., &c., &c.

(21759—2.) Wt. 31959—459. 1125 & 85. 11/11. D & S.

ANNUAL BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1910.

FINANCIAL.

The total revenue collected amounted to £1,933,235, or more than the amount estimated by £372,904, and an increase of £571,344 as compared with 1909.

This total of £1,933,235 was made up of £963 derived from sales of land and £1,932,272 from all other sources.

The following statement shows the receipts under each head of revenue compared with those for the preceding year:—

Head of Revenue.	1909.	1910.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs duties	987,571	1,440,284	452,713	—
Harbour and lighting dues ...	2,159	2,315	156	—
Licences, &c.	20,378	22,146	1,768	—
Fees of Court, &c....	77,170	131,566	54,396	—
Postal Revenue	13,113	14,119	1,006	—
Rent of GovernmentProperties...	2,128	2,273	145	—
Interest	59,540	51,332	—	8,208
Miscellaneous	5,697	2,576	—	3,121
Railway and Tramway	193,729	265,661	71,932	—
Total	1,361,485	1,932,272	582,116	11,329
Land Sales	406	963	557	—
Total	1,361,891	1,933,235	582,673	11,329

The receipts from Customs duties amounted to 74·5 per cent. of the revenue received from all sources. The receipts from specific duties totalled £1,232,100, compared with £830,907 in 1909, while *ad valorem* duties amounted to £208,184, compared with £156,663 in 1909. The following are the percentages of duty derived from the principal articles on which duties of Customs are levied:—

	Per cent.	£
Spirits	69·4	999,833
Cotton goods	9·2	133,551
Tobacco, unmanufactured ...	6·9	100,345

The total sum disbursed in all provinces in 1910, chargeable to Revenue and Surplus Balances, amounted to £1,989,979. Excluding the £397,697 temporarily "advanced" from revenue to capital account, which will eventually be repaid to revenue, the normal expenditure for the year was £1,592,282 against the budget estimate of £1,569,950, and actual payments in the previous year of £1,648,680.

The following statement shows the amount spent under each head of estimate during the year 1910, compared with the preceding year:—

Head of Expenditure.	1909.	1910.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Charge on Account of Public Debt.	206,174 19 10	207,683 5 5	1,508 5 7	—
Pensions and Gratuities...	14,212 7 10	14,475 3 1	265 15 3	—
Governor's Office... ...	8,028 17 0	9,169 9 2	1,140 12 2	—
Colonial Secretariat ...	14,878 0 4	15,519 3 5	641 3 1	—
Political and Administrative.	79,594 4 7	78,956 12 8	—	637 11 11
Judicial	11,930 7 1	13,151 10 2	1,221 3 1	—
Legal	3,403 18 2	3,503 15 9	99 17 7	—
Treasury	14,140 1 7	14,875 7 9	735 6 2	—
Customs	30,572 15 7	35,731 14 0	5,158 18 5	—
Postal	15,332 16 11	15,647 7 9	314 10 10	—
Telegraphs...	25,646 13 0	26,362 13 0	716 0 0	—
Audit	8,178 8 10	8,569 14 11	391 6 1	—
Printing	10,086 19 11	10,371 14 6	310 11 0	—
Force, West African Frontier.	96,694 19 0	104,863 19 0	8,143 3 7	—
Volunteer Force	2,437 17 4	2,098 8 11	—	339 8 5
Marine	106,435 15 9	118,655 18 10	12,220 3 1	—
Civil Police	42,252 2 7	45,843 0 1	3,590 17 6	—
Prisons	36,649 10 7	37,915 3 0	1,265 12 5	—
Forestry	11,834 11 2	13,225 10 0	1,390 18 10	—
Agriculture	10,485 12 4	14,638 1 10	4,152 9 6	—
Medical	60,943 18 9	63,482 15 9	2,538 17 0	—
Medical Research ...	690 0 0	679 0 0	—	11 0 0
Sanitary	3,302 15 7	4,610 11 5	1,307 15 10	—
Native Affairs	21,055 16 6	21,956 1 10	900 5 4	—
Education	22,834 3 5	25,896 15 0	3,062 11 7	—
Surveys	10,518 3 9	12,373 2 0	1,854 18 3	—
Mineral Survey ...	2,127 6 4	2,036 8 0	—	90 18 4
Lands	1,511 2 6	1,132 16 11	—	378 5 7
Laboratory... ...	719 7 1	658 3 1	—	61 4 0
Rent	1,981 10 11	2,160 8 0	178 17 1	—
Charitable	365 15 11	371 0 2	5 4 3	—
Transport	66,545 1 11	70,601 14 0	4,056 12 1	—
Motor Transport	5,906 2 10	5,401 4 5	—	504 18 5
Contribution to Northern Nigeria.	70,000 0 0	70,000 0 0	—	—
Miscellaneous	39,338 19 2	53,169 15 8	13,830 16 6	—
Public Works Department	38,487 4 7	41,253 0 9	2,765 16 2	—
Roads Construction ...	7,154 1 7	7,388 3 1	234 1 6	—
Works and Buildings Annually Recurrent.	45,804 0 9	33,118 14 10	—	12,685 5 11
Roads and Bridges Annually Recurrent.	9,468 8 10	13,903 2 4	4,434 13 6	—
Railway	128,771 0 10	154,697 19 9	25,926 18 11	—
Tramway	2,661 2 0	3,821 15 10	1,160 13 10	—
Carter and Denton Bridges	979 12 6	1,224 5 2	244 12 8	—
Works and Buildings Extraordinary.	167,936 0 0	97,151 6 4	—	70,784 13 8
Roads Extraordinary ...	38,498 11 10	56,176 15 7	17,678 3 9	—
Telegraphs Extraordinary	14,703 15 3	7,086 10 7	—	7,617 4 8
Marine Extraordinary ...	137,405 7 4	50,673 1 7	—	86,732 5 9
Total	1,648,680 9 7	1,592,282 5 4	123,444 12 5	179,842 16 8
Extraordinary Expenditure on Loan Works.	—	397,696 17 10	397,696 17 10	—
Total	1,648,680 9 7	1,989,979 3 2	521,141 10 3	179,842 16 8

The following statement shows the total revenue and expenditure for the last five years:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1906	1,088,717	1,056,290
1907	1,459,554	1,217,337
1908	1,387,975	1,357,763
1909	1,361,891	1,648,681
1910	1,933,235	1,592,282

The excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1910, was £716,714, being £340,953 more than at the close of 1909.

In Lagos both the Bank of British West Africa and the Bank of Nigeria are established. Under an agreement the Government is obliged to deal only with the former. Neither bank has yet opened a branch at any other station in the Western Province. But at Jebba (in Northern Nigeria) the Resident Engineer, Railway Construction, has found the establishment of a branch of the Bank of Nigeria of great assistance.

During the year under review arrangements were at last completed for the opening of Government bank accounts in the Eastern and Central Provinces. Not being under the same restriction as in the Western Province, Government is able to make use of both banks. The arrangement did not actually come into force till 1911, but early in that year accounts were opened—in the Eastern Province at Calabar with both banks, in the Central Province at Forcados with the Bank of British West Africa, at Burutu, Warri, and Onitsha with the Bank of Nigeria. Sanction has been given for further extension should either bank open at other stations where banking facilities would be of service to the Government.

TRADE.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1908	4,046,572	3,335,911	7,382,483
1909	4,529,604	4,114,237	8,643,841
1910	5,122,370	5,258,451	10,380,821

The above figures do not include either specie or Porto Novo transit goods and produce. They include, however, Government importations and goods and produce passing through the Central Province to and from Northern Nigeria.

In comparison with the total imports and exports for 1910, viz.: £10,380,000, it is of interest to note that the average for the five years, 1900-1904, which included Porto Novo transit goods and produce, was £4,330,000 only.

Deducting Government imports and exports for each of the last two years, and excluding specie, the following figures show the purely commercial inward and outward shipments of Nigeria taking Northern and Southern together.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1909	3,514,011	4,112,385	7,626,396
1910	4,578,884	5,256,906	9,835,790

Exclusive of specie, the Northern Nigeria commercial imports and exports for each year were as follows:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1909	171,581	264,357	435,938
1910	258,608	288,311	546,919

Exports of tin ore have risen from £38,165 in 1909 to £72,660 in 1910.

Allowing for the Northern Nigeria figures as quoted the following are found to be the net commercial imports and exports of Southern Nigeria:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1909	3,342,000	3,848,000	7,190,000
1910	4,320,000	4,968,000	9,288,000

These figures do not include specie, Government importations, Northern Nigeria goods and produce, or Porto Novo transit goods and produce, and, therefore, fairly represent the net trade of Southern Nigeria.

It will be observed that, taking the Southern Nigeria commercial imports and exports together, there is an increase of £2,098,000 in 1910 as compared with 1909, until then the record year.

This increase in trade was largely due to the greatly enhanced prices realised in the European markets for the staple products of the Colony and Protectorate.

In this connexion, the average prices for the last four years are appended:—

——	1910.	1909.	1908.	1907.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Palm Kernels, per ton	19 0 0	15 6 6	13 11 0	16 15 0
Palm Oil (Lagos), per ton ...	33 5 0	26 10 0	25 8 6	30 1 0
Rubber (Lagos Lump), per lb	0 3 6	0 2 2	0 1 8	0 2 4
Cocoa, per cwt.	2 5 0	2 5 0	2 15 9	3 19 0
Cotton (Mid. American), per lb.	7.87*d.*	5.50*d.*	6.18*d.*	6.35*d.*

From the above table it will be observed that abnormally high values ruled during the year for the Colony's staple exports, palm-kernels, and palm-oil, which together showed an average advance of 25 per cent. over the previous year.

Rubber also commanded extreme rates, the average value advancing more than 50 per cent. over 1909.

Cocoa prices remained the same, but cotton showed an advance on the previous year of 43 per cent. for the season.

The following statistics show the exports of palm-kernels and palm-oil, the mainstay of the Colony's trade, since 1900.

EXPORTS.

Palm Kernels.

Year.	Tons.	£	Remarks.
1900	85,624	833,630	Porto Novo transit kernels included up to 1904.
1901	114,046	948,010	
1902	132,556	1,274,487	
1903	131,898	1,094,349	
1904	139,788	1,278,394	
1905	108,817	1,090,054	
1906	113,347	1,193,939	
1907	133,630	1,658,292	
1908	136,558	1,424,596	
1909	158,849	1,815,967	
1910	172,998	2,450,814	

Palm Oil.

Year.	Tons.	£	Remarks.
1900	45,508	681,296	Porto Novo transit oil included up to 1904.
1901	56,766	813,478	
1902	64,167	957,637	
1903	54,257	847,954	
1904	57,947	929,168	
1905	50,562	857,848	
1906	57,260	1,001,648	
1907	65,473	1,313,900	
1908	65,460	1,154,933	
1909	82,130	1,447,163	
1910	76,850	1,742,234	

Appended is an extract from the Trade Report for 1910 dealing with this subject:—

> "Concerning the shortage of 5,280 tons of oil in 1910, as compared with 1909, attention was directed in the last Trade Report to the favourable climate conditions which ruled towards the end of 1908, when 1909 palm crop was maturing. The average rainfall at eleven stations in different parts of Southern Nigeria was found to be 28 inches in September and

October, 1908, as compared with 17 inches in the same months 1907, and 16 inches in 1909 when the 1910 crop was coming on. In view of the lighter rainfall towards the end of 1909, the reduction of 6 per cent. in the bulk of oil exports during 1910 need cause no alarm, especially when one remembers that after a similar fall in September and October, 1907, the oil crop of the following year was 11,000 tons less than that of 1910."

"The bulk of our staple exports, as distinct from the value, always appeals to the writer of these reports as the soundest criterion of the country's progress, and it is gratifying to be able to record the following figures showing the average output of palm produce for periods of three years commencing with the first year when Porto Novo transit produce was excluded from the returns:—

Kernels.

1905-7 average	... ...	118,598 tons per annum.
1908-10 ,,	... ...	156,135 ,, ,,
1910 alone	... ...	172,998 ,,

Oil.

1905-7 average	... ...	57,765 tons per annum.
1908-10 ,,	... ...	74,813 ,, ,,
1910 alone	... ...	76,850 ,,

Oil and Kernels together.

1905-7 average	... ...	176,363 tons per annum.
1908-10 ,,	... ...	230,948 ,, ,,
1910 alone	... ...	249,848 ,,

The exports of rubber were 560 tons more than in 1909, and in addition cocoa shows an advance of one and a half million pounds weight, the increase in the value of these exports being respectively £202,000 and £30,000. Against these advances, however, reduced crops of cotton and maize are to be noted, representing together a decrease in the value of these exports of £42,500.

The following further extracts from the Trade Report for 1910 are of interest:—

"Cotton, as forecast in the last report, showed a very marked decline, although not quite so bad as the earlier months of the year indicated. The production of 1910, say 2½ millions pounds weight of lint, is roughly equal to that of the years 1906 and 1908, but is only half that of the record year of 1909 and falls 37 per cent. below 1907."

"Reference was made in the Trade Report for 1909 to the light rainfall in the Ibadan District when the 1910 cotton crop was being raised. In the months of August to November, 1909, inclusive, the rainfall registered was 15·39 inches only, as compared with 21·51 inches during the same period in 1908. This relative shortage of moisture must, one would

think, have adversely affected the 1910 crop, although, as pointed out in the report referred to, 4 million lbs. weight of lint was exported in 1907 after 16½ inches of rain August—November, 1906. The local manager of the British Cotton Growing Association attributes the 1910 shortage 'chiefly to the heavy and prolonged Harmattan which prevailed, and in a lesser degree to the late planting of the seed.' The Director of Agriculture in his annual report for 1910 says:—'It is somewhat difficult to account for the shortage in any other way than that less land was planted, although the native farmers affirm that it was due to unfavourable climatic conditions. The Harmattan season is reported to have been more severe than usual, but cotton planted at the proper time should not have been seriously affected by it.'"

"Before leaving cotton, it is of interest to note that some specimens of Southern Nigeria lint sent to Europe for valuation after the recent Agricultural Show were priced as follows: —

"Agege (native type) 3*d.* per lb. above Mid. American.
"Meko ,, 2*d.* ,, ,,
"Asaba ,, 1¼*d.* ,, ,,

The following quantities of the principal Southern Nigeria products were exported in the last two years:—

1909.

Palm kernels, tons	158,849	of which Northern Nigeria contributed	...	...	3,646
Palm oil, tons ...	82,130	,,	,,	,,	8
Rubber, lbs. ...	1,388,009	,,	,,	,,	449,345
Lint cotton, lbs.	5,032,916	,,	,,	,,	140,080
Cocoa, lbs. ...	5,019,150	,,	,,	,,	—
Maize, tons ...	10,163	,,	,,	,,	—

1910.

Palm kernels, tons	172,998	,,	,,	,,	5,810
Palm oil, tons ...	76,850	,,	,,	,,	113
Rubber, lbs. ...	2,634,023	,,	,,	,,	519,943
Lint cotton, lbs.	2,478,336	,,	,,	,,	58,688
Cocoa, lbs. ...	6,567,181	,,	,,	,,	—
Maize, tons ...	5,096	,,	,,	,,	—

With reference to the increase in the total imports, it is worthy of notice that cotton goods to the value of £1,306,000 were imported in 1910, as compared with £1,075,000 in 1909.

FORESTRY.

The Conservator of Forests, in addition to short visits made to Ibadan and Lagos, examined an extensive tract of sparsely

populated country in the Meko and Shaki Districts, that was found to be rich in all the more valuable species of trees found in the open savannah forests. The true " dry zone " mahogany (*Khaya Senegalensis*) was found to be fairly common north of the 8th parallel of latitude.

In the Western Province extensive tours were undertaken. All reserves were visited as well as most of the richly timbered districts, and several areas were selected for reservation. But little travelling was done in the Central Province owing to press of other work; nevertheless some areas suitable for reservation were selected by the Provincial Forest Officer. In the Eastern Province the Oban Forest Reserve, some 360 square miles in extent, was thoroughly explored and a series of tours made through the Ikot-Ekpene, Aba, Opobo, Bende, and other districts in connection with the distribution of the various varieties of oil palm.

Alteration of Area.

Though no reserves were gazetted during the year in the Western Province, considerable progress has been made in selecting new areas for reservation and in completing the preliminaries connected with the final settlements.

The procedure connected with the reservation of 230 square miles in the Meko District was nearly completed by the end of the year, whilst it had reached a less advanced stage in the case of another 1,180 square miles of forest land in other parts of the province.

In the Central Province, an area of 67 square miles to the west of the Ologbo-Benin City road was finally gazetted as a forest reserve, whilst proposals were submitted and the consent of the natives obtained for the reservation of another four areas, aggregating some 514 square miles, in the same province.

The Oban Reserve was the only one finally gazetted as such during the year in the Eastern Province.

Regeneration of Forests.

Planting was continued in all the Government Reserves.

Western Province.—In the Oloke-Meji Reserve 30·6 acres were planted with 9,200 teak seedlings and 8·3 acres were sown with 2,511 teak seeds to stake. In addition to this 819 mahogany, 8,000 iroko, 198 apa, 120 Indian padauk, 4,000 *Mimusops elengi*, 40 *Cedrela odorata* as well as 50 seedlings of log wood were planted out in various parts of the reserve.

In the Mamu Reserve planting operations included the putting out of 1,807 *Landolphia* vines, 182 Para seedlings, 514 teak seedlings, the sowing to stake of 2,200 teak seeds, the planting of 2,438 iroko, 724 apa, 908 ijebo (*cedars*), 171 Indian padauk, 1,322 Indian sishum (*Dalbergia sissoo*), and 200 *Terminalia catapa* seedlings. In addition to this one acre was planted up with the oil nut or dika tree (*Irvingia Barterii*).

The plantations in the Ilaro Reserve were increased by 3 acres containing 2,600 *Dalbergia sissoo* seedlings, one acre containing

300 Indian padauk, and 150 teak seedlings planted out at a distance of 12 ft. by 12 ft. In addition to this, blanks in the *Funtumia elastica* plantations were filled up with 600 seedlings and those in the mahogany plantation with 400 seedlings.

The nurseries in the reserve contain 2,000 teak, 4,300 Para, 1,000 ceara, and 250 pyinkado (*Xylia dolabriformis*) seeds.

In the Oshun Reserve 1,000 *Funtumia elastica* seedlings were added to the small plantation; blanks were filled up in the Para rubber plantation, which now occupies 11½ acres, and the teak plantation was slightly extended. Six acres were planted with *Dalbergia sissoo* in addition to which 532 Indian padauk seedlings, 900 iroko and 260 opepe (*Sarcocephalus esculentus*) seedlings were put out.

The nurseries contained 10,500 Para and teak seeds. Several thousand ceara rubber seeds, iroko seedlings, and 800 teak seeds were sown and planted by the order of the late Alafin of Oyo in the proposed Ogun Reserve near Odo-Ogun.

The success that has attended the Benin communal rubber plantations has induced some 24 villages in the Ekiti country (Ilesha District) to start similar plantations of their own. The movement is spreading to the Ijebu-Ode and Epe Districts as well. The railway plantation was extended by 12 acres containing 8,000 iroko seedlings and by 150 teak seedlings on some open ground unsuited to the former species. Rodents of various species and the bush buck have done a great deal of damage to forest plantations in the Western Province, whilst the prolonged drought killed a large number of Para plants in the Ilaro Reserve.

Central Province.—The native communal plantations were increased by 60,000 *Funtumia elastica* seedlings, whilst in the old Niger Division 12 new plantations containing 22,000 seedlings were made. There has been a falling-off in the number of seedlings planted out as compared with former years, but the decrease is almost completely accounted for by the wider planting intervals adopted during 1910.

Timber licence holders are reported as having planted out 67,648 seedlings of the various species of mahoganies and cedars exploited by them.

Eastern Province.—The small Government plantations at the various district headquarters were extended and 250,000 seeds of the soft shelled oil palm were distributed to natives for sowing.

Exploitation of Major Forest Produce.

Felling permits for the export trade were issued for 4,901 trees, mostly mahoganies, the revenue from which amounted to £12,185 as compared with 4,200 trees yielding a revenue of £9,343 in the previous year.

Under local felling permits 1,151 trees were cut, realizing a revenue of £198.

The quantity of timber exported during the year is shown below for the three provinces.

Kind of Timber.	Western Province.		Central Province.		Eastern Province.		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£		£
Camwood, cwt...	27	20	—	—	—	—	27	20
Ebony, tons ...	·15	1	—	—	50	166	50·15	167
Mahogany, logs	1,168	5,675	14,019	54,395	11	120	15,198	60,191
Timber, cub. ft.	5,128	91	3	—	—	—	5,131	91
Total Value	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	60,469

The exports of mahogany logs during past years is given below for comparison:—

			£
1906	15,734	value	56,942
1907	17,237	,,	62,834
1908	22,303	,,	77,054
1909	9,576	,,	47,086

The increase in exports over that of last year was mainly due to the high prices offered in the home markets.

The number of licensed timber areas exploited during the year was 46, whilst applications for 25 new areas were received, 5 licences were provisionally granted, 2 licences were renewed, 1 licensed area was abandoned, and the provisional sanction for 5 were withdrawn.

Exploitation of Minor Forest Produce.

Owing to the exceptionally high prices paid for rubber in the home markets, during the year under review a great impetus was given to the exploitation of that product; this, combined with the opening up of certain districts in the Western Province to rubber tapping, brought the exports up to 2,634,023 lbs. valued at £311,691, as compared with 1,388,009 lbs. valued at £109,075 in the previous year.

The quantity of this product exported from each province and its value were:—

	Lbs.	Valued at £
Western Province	820,442	118,032
Central Province	1,607,703	177,315
Eastern Province	205,878	16,344
Total	2,634,023	311,691

The total number of rubber licences issued in the three provinces amounted to 10,125, from which a revenue of £3,270 10*s.* was collected.

An important stage in the development and improvement of the preparation of native rubber was reached during the course of the year. Several thousands of trees in the native communal plantations of *Funtumia elastica* having attained tappable dimensions were tapped and the rubber prepared under the supervision of and by members of the Forest Department in the presence of the owners. The coagulation of the latex was obtained by boiling and the coagulant was then rolled out into thin biscuits on a table by a wooden roller, the rubber being washed throughout the operation with very hot water. The biscuits were then hung up to dry and smoked in a long drying shed. Rubber of the first quality was thus prepared by means of simple appliances that can easily be procured by the natives.

The fine clear amber-coloured biscuits thus prepared were eventually sold at home for 6*s*. 6*d*. per lb. on a falling market when the best Para only realised 6*d*. a lb. more. This is a very great improvement on the usual quality of rubber exported from Southern Nigeria.

As regards the yield, in all 1,021 lbs. 13 ozs. of dry rubber was obtained from 4,706 trees over 18 inches in girth and from 28,815 small plants that were thinned out and tapped to death. The average return per tree from the two classes was 1·402 ounces and 0·337 ounces respectively. The percentage of loss in weight by evaporation of moisture was 37·7 per cent.

The exports during the year of other articles of minor forest produce from the three provinces was as follows:—

Articles.	Western Province.		Central Province.		Eastern Province.		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£		£
Gum Copal ... —	2,377	20	27,703	439	16	—	30,096	459
Piassava fibre tons	—	—	20	145	299	3,771	319	3,916
Oil Palm ...cwts.	368,386	442,086	388,882	397,596	779,748	902,552	1,537,016	1,742,234
Palm Kernels tons	79,157	1,176,185	41,910	514,719	51,980	759,910	173,047	2,450,814
Shea Butter... lbs.	396,099	3,514	368,003	3,290	—	—	764,102	6,804
Shea Nuts ... lbs.	153,359	460	9,845,511	43,050	—	—	9,998,870	43,510
Total Value ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,247,737

as against the following total exports of the previous year:—

	Quantity.	Value. £	
Fibre (lbs.)	1,117,301	6,168	Total £3,353,263
Gum copal (lbs.) ...	48,061	706	
Palm oil (tons) ...	82,130	1,447,163	
Palm kernels (tons) ...	158,849	1,815,967	
Shea butter (tons) ...	308	5,230	
Shea nuts (tons) ...	9,728	78,029	

There was a very gratifying increase in the trade in palm oil and palm kernels during the year. This increase was mainly due to the better prices ruling in the home markets.

A forest officer was placed on special duty for the greater part of the year in studying the distribution of the several varieties of oil palm, their cultivation, and the methods of preparing the oil, &c. A very large number of nuts of the soft shelled or "Lissombe" variety of palm from the Cameroons was distributed amongst the natives of the Eastern Province for cultivation.

Collections of Plants and Wild Products.

A large collection of samples of the various timbers of Southern Nigeria was prepared and forwarded to the Imperial Institute, as well as samples of camwood dyes together with botanical specimens of the plants from which they are obtained.

Collections of local beans and calabash plants were also made for the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew.

Other collections of both major and minor forest produce were made, and exhibited at the Agricultural Show held at Lagos towards the end of the year.

Financial Results.

The total receipts amounted to £15,723 8*s*. 4*d*. made up as follows:—

	£	*s*.	*d*.
Revenue on timber and sales of plants ...	12,184	16	9
,, ,, rubber licences	3,488	11	7
,, ,, elephant licences	50	0	0
Total	15,723	8	4

The total expenditure amounted to £13,246 16*s*. 7*d*. thus giving a surplus of £2,476 11*s*. 9*d*., as against a deficit of £1,305 0*s*. 1*d*. in the previous year.

AGRICULTURE.

The area of land cultivated with crops for export is small compared with the enormous areas under native food crops. This is amply exemplified by the imports of food stuffs into the country, the total value of which works out at about 1*s*. per head of the population.

Cotton, cocoa, and maize are the three most important crops exported.

Cotton.

The cotton harvest has fluctuated considerably during the last five years as is shown by the export returns given below:—

Year.	Cotton Lint.	Cotton Seed.	Remarks.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	
1906	24,070·75	61,746·5	Includes exports from Northern Nigeria.
1907	36,513·75	93,001·25	Returns unreliable.
1908	19,976·5	44,139·5	
1909	43,686	90,971	
1910	21,604	45,300	
Total for 5 years ...	145,851	333,158·25	
Average for 5 years...	29,170·2	66,631·65	

The exports of cotton lint during 1910 were 16 per cent. lower than the average export of this staple during the last five years. This decrease is attributed by the native grower to adverse climatic conditions in the shape of a deficient rainfall and strong Harmattan winds. It is, however, considered that the area of cotton planted was less than in the preceding years. More than 400 tons of cotton seeds were distributed, a quantity sufficient to plant about 36,500 acres of land.

Cocoa.

The cocoa industry shows steady improvement; the exports of this product were 30 per cent. greater than those of the previous year.

During the last five years the exports of cocoa were as follows:—

	lbs.
1906	1,619,987
1907	2,089,226
1908	3,060,609
1909	5,019,149
1910	6,567,181
Total for five years	18,356,152
Average for five years	3,671,230

At present the exports are mainly supplied from the Western Province, but the farmers in the Eastern Province are being encouraged to take up cocoa cultivation. During 1910, 1,112 cocoa fruits were distributed to intending planters.

Maize.

Less maize was exported than during any of the preceding four years. This decrease the farmers likewise state was due to unfavourable weather obtaining during the growing season. An enormous amount of damage was, however, caused by weevils and other grain-eating insects.

For comparison the exports of maize during the last five years are given:—

	Tons.
1906	13,074
1907	9,891
1908	15,531
1909	10,163
1910	5,096
Total for five years	53,755
Average for five years	10,751

Economic Gardens.

The plants and seeds distributed from the Economic Gardens were as follows:—

Province.	Plants.	Cocoa fruits.	Seeds (counted).	Packets of Seeds.	Seeds by weight, lbs.
Western	18,905	—	28,914	485	270
Central	22,013	60	—	56	—
Eastern	60,462	1,112	71,500	—	—
Total	91,380	1,172	100,414	541	270

Rubber Tapping Experiments.

Tapping experiments were conducted by the Agricultural Department on Para rubber trees in three different districts and on Ceara rubber trees in two different districts. The yields obtained are briefly summarised in the subjoined schedule:—

Place.	Name of tree.	Age of trees in years	Average girth at 3 ft. from the ground.	Number of times tapped.	Average yield of dry rubber per tree.
			inches.		lb. oz.
Ebute-Metta.	Hevea brasiliensis...	17	44·3	27	0 15·75
„	Hevea brasiliensis (variety).	8	41·8	26	0 13·65
Calabar ...	Hevea brasiliensis ...	14	—	128	2 5·18
„ ...	„ „ ...	6–8	—	112	0 9·27
„ ...	Manihot Glaziovii...	10	44·1	8	0 8·0
„ ...	„ „ ...	8	31·1	8	0 3·57
Orugbo ...	Hevea brasiliensis...	9	28·95	Alternate days from 19th Sept. to 31st Dec.	1 0
Onitsha ...	Manihot Glaziovii...	7	33	8	0 ·92

Entomology.

The Entomologist was able to get a large portion of his collection of insects named at the South Kensington Museum and these will form the nucleus of the collection it is proposed to maintain for reference purposes.

Agricultural Show, Lagos.

A most successful Agricultural Show was held in Lagos during December. Samples of crops from all parts of the Colony and Protectorate were entered for competition; the friendly rivalry thus engendered must tend to encourage argricultural development.

SHIPPING.

The following statement shows the steamers and sailing ships inwards and outwards compared with the previous year:—

Flag.	Entered.				Cleared.			
	1910.		1909.		1910.		1909.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Steam—								
British ...	340	467,471	342	474,261	329	448,892	334	463,559
German ...	211	334,939	192	284,552	210	340,123	191	280,272
French ...	1	1,972	1	2,472	1	1,972	1	2,472
Spanish ...	—	—	1	44	—	—	1	44
Portuguese ...	1	181	—	—	1	181	—	—
Danish ...	1	876	2	1,752	1	876	2	1,752
Dutch ...	2	18	2	14	2	18	2	14
Austrian ...	1	658	—	—	1	658	—	—
Sailing—								
British ...	1	540	1	417	1	540	1	417
U.S. America	1	565	1	6	1	565	1	6
Norwegian ...	—	—	1	480	—	—	1	480
Total ...	559	807,220	543	763,998	547	793,825	534	749,016

The following statement shows the value of the trade carried by British and foreign vessels during the year compared with the preceding year:—

—	Southern Nigeria.				Transit Trade.									
	1910.		1909.		Western Province.				Central Province.			Eastern Province.		
					1910.		1909.		1910.		1909.	1910.		1909.
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British and Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British and Foreign.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Entered ...	5,105,308	752,027	4,364,274	598,270	111,811	22,411	70,372	18,863	11,338	20,396	16,901	8,324	1,110	6,662
Cleared ...	3,688,728	1,615,458	2,925,223	1,243,938	197,143	232,834	118,763	164,776	10,369	5,806	18,376	5,548	1,652	5,401
Total ...	8,794,036	2,367,485	7,289,497	1,842,208	308,954	255,245	189,135	183,639	21,707	26,202	35,277	13,872	2,762	12,063

The total increase in the value of Southern Nigeria trade amounted to £2,029,816, of which British vessels secured £1,504,539, or 74 per cent.

This additional trade of £1,504,539 is an increase of 21 per cent. over that carried by British vessels in 1909 as compared with an increase of £525,277 or 28 per cent. secured by foreign vessels.

As regards Porto Novo trade there was a total increase over 1909 of £191,425, of which British vessels secured £119,819, or 62 per cent.

The increase in the carrying trade of British vessels is 63 per cent. over that carried in 1909 as against an increase of £71,606, or 39 per cent. by foreign vessels.

The transit trade in the Central and Eastern Provinces shows an increase over 1909 of 35 per cent. and 37 per cent. respectively, but a comparison of the increased trade carried by British and foreign vessels cannot be made, as in 1909 the figures were not kept separate.

LAND GRANTS AND GENERAL VALUE OF LAND.

In the Eastern and Central Provinces, only leasehold grants have been issued by the Crown. Such leases have been issued mainly to merchants for the purpose of carrying on trade. At present there are 24 of such leases in force in the Eastern Province and 65 in the Central Province. The majority are of recent date. In the Western Province Protectorate, the Crown has claimed no right of disposing of land other than that acquired for railway purposes. Leases of land adjoining railway stations have been issued to various trading firms.

There remains that portion of the Western Province which formed the old Lagos Colony, and even here Government grants occur mainly only of land at or within a few miles of Lagos. By a treaty of the 6th August, 1861, the Island and Port of Lagos with all the rights and territories appertaining to it were ceded by King Docemo to the British Sovereign. Before the cession the land was vested in the native government, consisting of the King of Lagos acting through his subordinate chiefs. Subject to the approval of the king, these chiefs appear to have exercised the power of disposing of the use of the land. The assignee and his descendants obtained an inalienable right of user subject to determination in certain circumstances. After the cession, a commission was appointed to enquire into rights over land held by private occupiers, and where such rights were proved an absolute grant was issued. Such absolute titles were without doubt foreign to native ideas, and fundamentally different from the native assignment of user. Up to 1882 over 3,000 of such grants were issued; since that date absolute grants have been made in Lagos Island chiefly of reclaimed swamp lands, and in some cases in exchange for the surrender of old Crown grants. At Iddo Island and Ebute-Metta, absolute grants have been issued of the allotments formed to receive occupiers of land acquired by the Government Railway. The issue of absolute grants has been discontinued.

Leasehold grants are still issued of swamp land reclaimed by authority of the Government. Building leases are issued at the western portion of the old Hausa Lines site, and also of sites at the New Hausa Settlement on the far side of the Macgregor Canal, ex-soldiers here receiving preferential treatment.

The value of land in the Central and Eastern Provinces is considerably less than of that in the Western Province. In the latter farm land in the best agricultural district about 18 miles from Lagos has been recently assessed by the Supreme Court at £3 an acre. The real value of land on Lagos Island and at Ebute-Metta is difficult to determine, owing to the growth of speculative buying. Probably the high prices given are in excess of the true value. Supreme Court valuations range from 4*s*. a square yard of land adjoining the principal thoroughfare to 1*s*. a square yard and under in the poorer quarters of the town.

LEGISLATION.

The principal new ordinances are:—

1. The Destructive Pests Ordinance, passed for the purpose of preventing the introduction of insect, fungus, or other pests destructive of vegetable life.

2. The Illiterates Protection Ordinance, designed to protect illiterates from extortionate charges by professional letter writers.

3. The Lagos Harbour Dues Ordinance, which provides for the levying of dues on cargo and passengers landed in Lagos or leaving Lagos Harbour by sea. This ordinance does not come into force until proclaimed by the Governor in the Gazette.

4. The Distilleries Ordinance, which prohibits the distilling of spirits without a licence.

5. The Destruction of Mosquitoes Ordinance, probably one of the most important pieces of legislation passed during the year; it is framed as a prophylactic measure against the spread of malarial and yellow fever, and already good results are apparent.

6. The Trade Marks Ordinance, which had been under discussion for some time; its legislative importance is recognised and the ordinance is expected to prove adequate for many years to come.

EDUCATION.

A new Education Code came into force in the course of the year. In addition to the ordinary subjects of school instruction provision is made in the code for colloquial English, drawing, kindergarten, object lessons, nature study, and physical exercises and musical drill. Some form of manual instruction—woodwork or agriculture—is required to be taught in the primary schools during four months of the school year, and specific provision is made for giving grants-in-aid to technical or trade schools and to agricultural schools. It is also provided that instruction in agriculture and woodwork shall be included in the curricula of training institutions, and arrangements are in progress for the erection of a Government training institution in the Western Province. In the Eastern Province it is hoped that teachers will be trained in the Hope-Waddell Institute in connexion with the Scottish Presbyterian Mission at Calabar, which comprises departments for primary, secondary, and technical instruction. An agreement has been entered into with the Mission to train in the institute students who at the end of their course will be employed as teachers of Government or Assisted schools.

The schools under the supervision of the Government are of two classes—Government and Assisted. The Government schools are established by the Government and are maintained wholly or in part from public funds of the Administration. The Assisted schools are schools established by some recognised society, or by private persons, in aid of which grants are made

by the Government, in accordance with the provisions of the Education Ordinance and the Education Code in force for the time being.

The number of Government schools at the end of the year was 55, distributed as follows among the three Provinces:—Western 10, Eastern 22, Central 23.

The number of Assisted schools at the end of the year was 105. Of these there were 38 in the Western Province, 52 in the Eastern, and 15 in the Central.

There was no increase in the number of Government schools as compared with the number in the preceding year. New schools were not opened, as the policy of the Department has been to devote the energies of the organising staff to the development and consolidation of existing schools, rather than to the opening of new schools which would be difficult of access to inspectors of schools and European organising teachers. With the supply of trained teachers and the strengthening of the inspecting and organising staff, it is hoped that a large number of new schools will be opened and brought under the entire control of the Education Department.

The Assisted schools show an increase of two in comparison with the number returned at the end of the preceding year. Owing to various causes six schools were withdrawn from Government inspection, whereas eight schools were placed on the list of Assisted schools.

In addition to the Government and Assisted schools, there are to be found in the three provinces a large number of Mission schools entirely controlled by missionary societies, and also a small number of private venture schools established and controlled by private individuals.

The Mohamedans, more especially those in the Western Province, have schools of their own in which the instruction is purely religious, consisting chiefly of learning by heart portions of the Koran in the original Arabic. There is no idea of giving a practical or literary education in these Moslem schools and most of the children attending them also go to Government or Assisted schools for an education on occidental lines. The Government makes no grants to the Moslem schools, and they are not recognised in the scheme of public instruction.

The number of pupils on the registers of Government schools amounted to 4,473, distributed as follows among the three provinces:—

—	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Western	802	39	841
Central...	1,508	101	1,609
Eastern	1,941	82	2,023
Total	4,251	222	4,473

There is a falling-off of 41 boys and 57 girls in comparison with the return of the preceding year; this is due chiefly to a diminution in the school attendance in the Central Province, which shows a decrease of no less than 159 boys and 67 girls.

The number on the registers of the Assisted schools was, at the end of the year, 15,120 scholars distributed as below:—

—	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Western	4,484	1,551	6,035
Central...	2,747	52	2,799
Eastern	5,395	891	6,286
Total	12,626	2,494	15,120

The number on the registers of the Assisted schools in the preceding year was 14,014; there is thus an increased enrolment of 1,106, and it is satisfactory to observe that the corresponding increase in the number of girls attending the schools is not less than 500.

The average attendance for the year in Government schools was 3,063, which compares favourably with 3,079 in 1909, when the number on enrolment was higher than that for 1910.

In the Assisted schools the average attendance was 10,440, showing an increase of 1,062 on the average attendance for the preceding year.

The total enrolment for the year in both Government and Assisted schools in the three provinces was 19,593, and the total average attendance 13,503, the corresponding numbers for the preceding year being respectively 18,585 and 12,457, the increase in enrolment of 1910 over 1909 being 1,008 and in average attendance 1,046.

The Cambridge Local Examinations were held in the Colony for the first time in the month of December. Six boys from King's College, Lagos, entered for the junior examination, and three of these were successful.

Increased attention was given to agriculture and manual instruction during the year. In three of the Government schools in the Western Province, gardens were started under the supervision of a school gardener; and in the other provinces all Government and Assisted schools were provided with a supply of economic plants for their school gardens. The visits of Curators of the Agricultural Department did much to improve the gardens of several village schools. Other forms of manual instruction included carpentry, coopering, brick-laying, sewing, laundry work, cookery, and the preparation of agricultural products for market.

Evening classes for teachers were conducted at Lagos for about six months in the year, and two courses of vacation lectures for teachers were also held in the Central and Eastern Provinces.

The Lagos Annual Competitive Exhibition of School Work took place in the month of December. The number of entries was more than double that of the previous year, and the Exhibition was a distinct success.

The expenditure on the administration and management of Government and Assisted schools, exclusive of grants made to Assisted schools, amounted to £17,445 5*s*. 10*d*., and the amount of grants to Assisted schools was £8,041 13*s*. 1*d*., making a total expenditure of £25,486 18*s*. 11*d*. If to this amount be added the sum of £407 9*s*. 10*d*., expended on junior and senior technical scholarships, the total expenditure would appear as £25,894 8*s*. 9*d*. The corresponding expenditure for the preceding year, exclusive of the amount of £8,968 5*s*. 8*d*. representing the cost of King's College, was £22,834 3*s*. 5*d*. An increase of £3,060 5*s*. 4*d*. is thus shown in the ordinary expenditure of the Education Department.

The amount paid into Revenue was £2,955 16*s*. made up of school fees, fees for teacher's evening classes, chiefs' subscriptions, &c.

POLICE.

The authorised establishment on the 31st December, 1910, was 1,361, an increase of 130 as compared with the previous year,—but the actual strength was 1,349.

Authorised establishment:—

European staff	16
Native staff	18
Rank and file	1,327
	1,361

The allocation of the actual strength was as follows:—

Western Province	605
Central Province	313
Eastern Province	431
Total	1,349

Small detachments were drafted into the districts of Obudu, Okwoga, and into the recently established station of Ogwashi-Uku.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of persons apprehended or summoned before all the courts was 10,779, dealt with as under:—

Discharged for want of prosecution	1,185
Discharged on the merits	1,043
Summarily convicted	8,099
Committed for trial	452
Total	10,779

Of the number of summary convictions, 967 were for offences against the person, 11 for malicious injury to property, 18 for cattle stealing and arson, 2,101 for other offences against property, and 4,992 for other minor offences.

In the superior courts there were 286 convictions and 185 acquittals, particulars of which are as follows:—

Offences.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
Murder	101	123
Manslaughter	46	12
Attempted murder ...	2	1
Rape	7	3
Unnatural crimes... ...	—	1
Theft with violence ...	3	2
Cattle stealing and arson...	3	2
Other offences against property	51	8
Other offences against the person	36	16
Miscellaneous offences ...	37	17
Total	286	185

PRISONS.

In the Colony and Protectorate there are 43 prisons, and during 1910, 22,931 prisoners passed through the prison registers. Practically all these prisoners were inspected and reported upon.

Health in the prisons has not been good, dysentery having been most rife, and in spite of all the care and attention given by the Medical Department the deaths show an increase over 1909. Great improvement is expected in the immediate future as buildings are being improved, ventilation increased, &c. In this connection attention, care, and expense are not being spared.

The work has been of the most varied description, but that of a sanitary or public nature had prior claim; road-making has employed a number of men, and light-labour men have been engaged on basket-making, tailoring, &c.

The expenditure on the prisons amounted to £36,786 15*s.* 1*d.*, and the earnings to £24,054, of which £1,172 was cash.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

At the Lagos Hospital, 167 Europeans and 1,310 natives were treated as in-patients, while 6,479 natives attended as out-patients.

334 major surgical operations were performed. The daily average number of Europeans in ward was 3·5, and the death-rate of Europeans admitted was 3·5 per cent. for the year.

In the Yaba Lunatic Asylum, Western Province, there were 9 cases with 2 deaths and 1 recovery.

In the Yaba Leper Asylum, Western Province, there were 16 cases with 1 death.

At Onitsha European Hospital, 41 in-patients were treated, with 5 deaths.

In the Native Hospital, Onitsha, 369 natives were treated as in-patients and 4,550 as out-patients.

In the Onitsha Leper Asylum, Central Province, there were 75 cases with 6 deaths.

At the European Hospital at Warri, 61 patients were treated.

At Calabar, in the European Hospital, 148 patients were treated.

In the Native Hospital, Calabar, 1,232 in-patients and 5,490 out-patients were treated; deaths numbered 56. 119 surgical operations were performed.

In the New Barracks Dispensary, Calabar, 1,564 patients were treated, of whom 14 were Europeans.

In the lunatic asylum at Calabar in the Eastern Province, 12 cases were treated, with 3 recoveries and 2 deaths.

At Opobo European Hospital, only 1 in-patient was treated.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

The estimated native population of Lagos and Ebute Metta (its suburb) was 62,090, and the European 535. The native population of all three provinces is approximately:—

Western Province	...	...	...	2,200,000
Central Province	...	...	...	2,000,000
Eastern Province	...	...	...	2,500,000

Public Health.

The general state of public health continues satisfactory.

In the Western Province, there were 16 deaths among Europeans: 4 remittent fever, 2 hæmoglobinuric fever, 1 acute anæmia-pupera hæmorrage, 1 hepatic abscess, 2 chronic nephritis, 1 accidental, 1 coma, 2 tuberculosis, 1 cardiac disease, 1 gastritis.

In the Central Province, there were 13 deaths among Europeans: 2 hepatic abscess, 1 ischio rectal abscess and pneumonia, 1 drowning, 1 concussion of brain, 3 hæmoglobinuric fever, 1 acute alcoholism and malaria, 1 pneumonia, 1 peritonitis, 2 blackwater fever.

In the Eastern Province, there were 8 deaths among Europeans: 2 from malaria fever, 1 from blackwater fever, 1 from dysentery, 1 alcoholism, 1 hepatic abscess, 1 tubercle, 1 killed by buffalo.

SANITATION.

Early in the year two sanitary officers were appointed, their duties being to visit and inspect towns in all three provinces, render reports, make recommendations, and to see that orders issued were thoroughly carried out.

Considerable swamp reclamation has been carried out during the year under review at Calabar, Forcados, and other places by means of pumping clean heavy sand, dredged from the river and harbour bars, over the areas to be dealt with.

Road and street construction in the more important stations has received much attention—the sandy road-beds being first bricked over, then covered by a thick layer of laterite, granite chips, or laterite and stone combined, and finally the whole is subjected to pressure by steam rollers. Concurrently with road and street formation comes the making of culverts and drains, and this has been most assiduously carried out, the requirements of large towns such as Lagos having received special attention. Street improvement is generally followed by the erection of new and comparatively substantial buildings. This has been most noticeable during 1910.

General sanitary measures were systematically carried out, but as sanitary science has only recently acquired prominence locally it cannot be expected that Southern Nigeria towns can at once become models in this respect. Much has been done, however, and work in this direction is being pushed diligently forward.

Anti-malarial precautions have in the past year given place to anti-mosquito measures, with this exception that quinine was still largely used as a prophylactic against malaria. The main features of the anti-mosquito measures were:—the abolition of mosquito breeding-places by reclamation or filling, draining, oiling, and bush clearing; the collection and destruction of refuse such as old pots, calabashes, tins, bottles, &c.; the overturning of pots which contained larvæ; the mosquito-proofing of water-containing receptacles such as barrels, casks, and tanks; the mosquito-proofing of wells and the application of pumps to them; the closing of very shallow wells; puncturing of eave-guttering where sagging; and the introduction into towns of drinking water from some distance away from them. Water supplies of this description have been laid on for Calabar and Benin City, and waterworks are under construction for Lagos and a part of Ibadan. As a protection against mosquitoes and the larger biting flies, houses were mosquito-proofed entirely, or one or more rooms were so treated, or an interior mosquito-proof room was built entirely of gauze and wood.

Strict quarantine regulations were in force at the various ports, and quarantine stations and anchorages were established, but, up to the present, ships have been so free from infectious disease that there has been little occasion to call into requisition either of the two latter.

Rules were made under the Quarantine Ordinance on the 18th February, 1910, and amended on the 16th, 18th, and 23rd May, and 27th August, and special instructions were issued and precautions taken during the outbreak of yellow fever in Sierra

Leone and the Gold Coast, special medical officers being appointed to enforce the quarantine regulations.

Public lectures were delivered on anti-mosquito measures, and an ordinance to provide for the destruction of mosquitoes was passed on 4th August. Special medical officers, sanitary inspectors, and gangs of labourers were appointed in the larger towns to carry out its provisions.

The Public Health Ordinance was amended on the 26th April, and the Lagos Municipal Board of Health (Incorporation) Ordinance was amended on the same date.

Rules were made under the Towns Ordinance on the 27th August, and on the 5th August several towns and districts were added to the list of places in which the ordinance would be enforced.

On the 2nd September, a Leper Ordinance was passed.

An Ordinance to amend the Towns Ordinance came into force on the 10th November.

Building regulations proposed by the Lagos Municipal Board of Health under Section 13 of the Towns Ordinance were published in the Government Gazette, No. 76, of 21st September.

Besides the Lagos Municipal Board of Health, which controls the sanitary district of Lagos, local sanitary boards have been established in various large centres throughout the Colony and Protectorate.

Vaccination by medical officers and native vaccinators was regularly carried on in many towns and villages.

Water for domestic purposes was subjected to bacteriological and chemical analysis, and foods were inspected.

Sanitary methods of burial received a large share of attention, and inter-mural burial is gradually being reduced. Mohammedan burial customs in Lagos and vicinity have been modified, and it is hoped that the new system will be generally adopted.

POSTAL.

There is a satisfactory increase in postal business transacted during the year under review.

The number of articles, exclusive of parcels, passing through the post was 300,375 in excess of those in the previous year.

The total number of parcels dealt with was 25,899 more than in 1909, and there has also been an increase of 25,812 in the number of registered articles.

The cash on delivery system was extended to three additional offices during the year, and the number of parcels and packets received amounted to 13,266, the value of which was £15,493 5*s*. 10½*d*. Of this number 11,918 were delivered, and £14,022 8*s*. 8*d*. was remitted to the senders in respect of trade charges thereon. It should be mentioned that these parcels were received solely from the United Kingdom.

There is an increase recorded in money order transactions to the extent of £1,597 0*s*. 4*d*., whilst postal order business is £41,998 1*s*. 4*d*. in excess of the previous year's transactions.

SAVINGS BANK.

The amount deposited in the Savings Bank during the year was £23,020 against £22,891 in 1909 an increase of £129. The withdrawals amounted to £22,476 as against £23,634 in 1909, a decrease of £1,158.

The Bank held a total of £34,307 for 3,933 depositors on 31st December, 1910, as against £33,013 which stood to the credit of 3,521 depositors on 31st December, 1909.

The total sum invested on behalf of the Savings Bank by the Crown Agents for the Colonies in securities approved by the Secretary of State is £30,205 17*s.* 10*d.*

Interest at 2½ per cent. per annum computed on the various amounts deposited during the year aggregated £749, of which a sum of £58 was paid to depositors who closed their accounts, the difference, viz.: £691 being added to capital in favour of the remaining depositors.

The amount realised by interest on invested Savings Bank Funds was £912. The difference of £163 is placed to the credit of the Bank.

TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

Telegraphs.

The clearing along the main telegraph line from Oshogbo to Calabar, *viâ* Benin City, Onitsha, Ikot-Ekpene, and Uwet, has been increased in width, and on the majority of sections linemen are now provided with bicycles. There has been a consequent reduction in the number and duration of telegraph interruptions.

A second wire was erected on the Ilesha-Ifon section (125 miles), thus completing the second wire from Lagos to Warri *viâ* Benin City. The wire on the Ikot-Ekpene Calabar section (75 miles) was also duplicated. As a result, through communication has been expedited and traffic facilities greatly increased.

Twenty-one miles (two wires) of the main line have been transferred from the telegraph route to the new road between Benin City and Ibekwe, on the Benin City-Ifon road.

On the coast-line between Lagos and Forcados, alterations necessitated by the encroachment of the sea have been carried out, the clearing improved, and copper substituted for iron wire. This line is now a valuable alternative route to the Central Province.

The following extensions were carried out during the year:—

Reconstruction along the railway from Aro to Ibadan, including new deviations 25 miles, (6 wires).

Jebba—Zungeru (14 miles) completed (3 wires).

Aro to Meko (44 miles) completed, and office opened at the latter place.

Agbor to Egori (87 miles). This line, which had reached a point 52 miles from Agbor in 1909, was completed to Egori, and provides *viâ* Lokoja, a second route to

Northern Nigeria. An office was opened at Agenebode, opposite Idah, on the River Niger.

Afikpo-Abakaliki (33 miles). This section which had reached a point 24 miles north of Afikpo in 1909 was completed, and an office opened at Abakaliki.

Afikpo-Ediba (Itigidi). A branch line (8½ miles) was constructed from Abba on the Afikpo-Abakaliki line, and an office opened at Itigidi on the Cross River.

The total number of telegrams dealt with in 1910, exclusive of railway messages, amount to 477,512, which is an increase of 63,019 over the figures for 1909.

Telephones.

The telephone systems at Lagos, Calabar, and Opobo, have been extended, and an increased number of subscribers obtained.

Telephone circuits have been erected at Bonny and Oyo for the convenience of the local administrations.

There has also been a great increase in the number of telephone calls dealt with; at Lagos Exchange they average nearly 600 per diem.

RAILWAY.

The gross revenue of the Lagos Railway for the year amounted to £253,605, the working expenses to £157,868, and the net revenue to £95,737.

Further progress was made with the capital works under construction, and the total amount expended was £512,348.

The number of passengers carried in 1910 was 387,667, yielding a revenue of £50,324, compared with 285,203 passengers and a revenue of £39,579 in 1909. The number of third-class passengers carried was 379,824, showing an increase over 1909 of 101,689. The increase in goods traffic was chiefly attributable to palm kernel traffic. The tonnage of goods carried in 1910 was 207,210 tons, and the income derived therefrom £191,953, compared with 165,150 tons carried in 1909, producing £154,126. There was a total increase in tons of 42,060, and there was an increase in stone traffic of 43,855 tons over that of 1909. There was a decrease in construction material hauled of 247 tons on open lines and 9,091 tons on un-open lines.

Ibadan-Oyo Motor Service.

This service was maintained during the year, an additional van having been added towards the end of the year. The expenditure was £4,075 17*s.* 4*d.*, allowing for depreciation of rolling stock at 20 per cent.

The receipts were:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Freight	2,946	0	8
Passengers	336	13	10
Miscellaneous	183	12	4
Total	£3,466	6	10

Goods to the extent of 1,972 tons were carried in 1910, as compared with 1,789 tons in 1909, and 1,437 passengers were carried as against 1,228 in 1909.

It is worthy of notice that the intermediate traffic to and from roadside market places is increasing, averaging over 33 tons during the last five months of the year. Arrangements were made to provide special trips to Iseyin, 27 miles further than Oyo, but the inauguration of a regular service for this extension has not yet been settled.

WATERWAYS.

Extensive waterway clearing was carried out throughout 1910 in the three provinces.

In the Western Province, sudd-cutting between the Benin River and Lagos was carried out during October, November, and December. Many large blocks of sudd were removed, and the creek system was reported as thoroughly safe for navigation.

The River Oshun was also cleared for a distance of about 27 miles; many large snags being blown up. The work occupied the first three months of the year.

On the River Yewa, 14 miles were cleared of sudd, snags blown up, and the bush cut away where necessary. The time expended was about one month.

In the Central Province, work was carried on from January to June on the Ndoni Creek and River Aseh, during which a large number of snags were blown up. The total distance covered by the clearing party was about 64 miles. A distance of 25 miles on the River Imo was cleared of trees and snags.

In the Eastern Province a large amount of clearing was carried out on the Rivers Imo and Ota-Minni. Three months were expended on each river, and 52 miles of waterways dealt with. A small amount of clearing was done on the River Sombriero. A large party was at work on Stubbs Creek from January to April; four miles of cutting were completed, and a pathway made along the bank of the canal for a distance of five miles. A steel canoe was able to proceed from end to end of the waterway.

Minor clearings on the Rivers Aya and Kwa, and Ikonetu Creek were carried out, and surveys of the Rivers Ewayong and Ikpi were made.

The coast-line from Tom Shot Point to the River Middleton was surveyed by the S.Y. "Ivy," and many changes were found to have taken place.

MARINE SERVICES.

In the Western Province there are three services:—

(*i.*) Lagos-Porto Novo Service. The usual weekly mail and passenger service between Lagos and Porto Novo is

still in operation; the number of the passengers carried during the year was 3,732, an increase of 1,234 on the previous year.

(*ii.*) Lagos-Siluko-Sapele Service. A similar service to the above. The number of passengers carried during the year was 6,123, an increase of 1,148 on the previous year.

(*iii.*) Lagos-Ejinrin-Epe Service. Motor barges running in connection with the Ejinrin market every ninth day, and carrying cargo between Lagos and Epe *viâ* Ejinrin every eighth day; this service was inaugurated in August. The number of passengers carried during the year was 3,455, as well as 1,064 tons of cargo.

In the Central Province, transport of passengers and stores on the River Niger, other than those dealt with by the regular Northern Nigeria transport service, is performed by the Government stern wheeler "Raven" and other craft, as required.

Mail launches ply between Forcados, Warri, and Sapele. During the year 9,040 passengers and 951 tons of cargo were carried between these ports, showing an increase of 556 passengers, and 100 tons of cargo over the previous year. A larger launch with more accommodation for both passengers and cargo than those now in use will be built at Lagos during 1911.

In the Eastern Province, the Cross River transport service has been regularly maintained, and by means of the shallow draught motor launches, "Spider," "Sandfly," and "Mosquito," has been continued without interruption throughout the dry season. The "Mosquito" was added to this service owing to an increased demand for transport during the month of April. The number of passengers carried during the year was 14,558, and cargo amounting to 4,334 tons, as compared with 15,743 passengers and 5,210 tons of cargo of the previous year.

The mail and transport services between Bonny and Akassa (calling at intermediate places), and between Bonny and Opobo have been regularly maintained. The number of passengers carried amounted to 9,455, an increase of 523 over the previous year.

The introduction into these services of the "Manatee" and "Pioneer," a type of larger motor craft, has been fully justified.

ROADS AND WORKS.

Western Province.

Several new roads in Lagos have been constructed with laterite, and a number re-surfaced, some with granite and others with laterite.

Improvements to roads in Ebute-Metta have been made.

Ebute-Metta—Yaba Road was extended and laterited to Ojuwoye.

Oyo-Iseyin Road completed up to Iseyin. Has been open for traffic since August.

Oyo-Ogbomosho Road, 26 miles completed except for the bridges over the Opeji and the Oba Rivers.

Ede-Ife Road, 3 miles completed and strengthened.

Oshogbo-Ogbomosho Road, 6 miles completed except for the bridge over the Eyin-Ile River, and a 15 ft. bridge over a stream of which the name is not known.

Ibadan-Oyo Road, 33 miles re-metalled in soft places throughout its length.

Oshogbo-Ilesha Road, 20 miles kept open for traffic.

Central Province.

The road from Onitsha to Awka has been metalled from Onitsha Waterside up to ninth mile, and again started at the eleventh mile working back. 44 culverts built and head-walls fixed. Milestones erected throughout and side drains put where necessary up to ninth mile and various places beyond.

Several minor roads and bridges completed, including landing place, Niger Co. Road, Onitsha.

Asaba-Okpanam Road complete, with exception of metalling.

Eastern Province.

One mile 50 chains of path, &c., on Kwa Falls Road constructed. Three miles of path cleared, and four miles of transmission line 100 ft. in width also cleared.

The abutments and wing walls of Oberetem Bridge were repaired.

Kwa-Ibo Bridge completed.

Erriam Road repaired and additional culverts constructed.

The foregoing work was carried out entirely by the Public Works Department; in the last named two provinces, however, new roads are being continually opened up by political officers, connecting market with market. The people fully appreciate the benefit to both life and property conferred on them by wide well-constructed roads in place of the narrow bush path hitherto existing, which was more of the nature of a drain shut in on both sides by tall grass or bush. Nothing in the opinion of the writer has more contributed to the present prosperity of the Colony and protectorate than the willing work of the natives in opening up the country to trade by the means of properly made roads, and much praise is indeed due to the district officers under whose supervision this good work has been carried out.

In addition to the construction of roads and the building of officials' quarters, the following are the principal works undertaken during the year under review:—

Western Province.

In Lagos:—

New Government offices, strong rooms, &c.
New Customs offices completed.
Drill hall, Southern Nigeria volunteers.
Alterations to Lagos prison.

Sewage depôt at Alakoro.
Reclamation.
Shed for steel construction work at Apapa.
Laboratory medical research at Yaba.

Up country:—
Prison at Oshogbo.
Prison at Ondo.

Central Province.

Reclamation and clearing, Warri.
Iron water latrines, Forcados.
Reclamation, Forcados.
Sea wall (1,350 ft. run built), Forcados.
Prison, Benin City.
Reclamation and drainage at Abo.
Quarantine station at Forcados.

Eastern Province.

Raising tanks and improvement to water supply, Calabar.
Barracks water supply, Calabar.
347 ft. of sea wall at Bonny.
Reclamation, Opobo.

CLIMATE.

At the Lagos Observatory, the mean shade temperature was 80°·2; the highest was 93° in March, and the lowest 65° in January.

The greatest rainfall—148·92 inches—was at Akassa (Lat. 4°·20′ N., Long. 6°·03′ E.), and the least—1·45 inches—at Ogbomosho (Lat. 8°·08′ N., Long. 4°·14′ E.).

The rainfall at provincial headquarters was:—Lagos (Western), Lat. 6° 27′ N., Long. 3° 24′ E., 69·43 inches; Calabar (Eastern), Lat. 4° 58′ N., Long. 8° 19′ E., 102·50 inches; Warri (Central), Lat. 5° 31′ N., Long. 5° 44′ E., 107·63 inches.

The "harmattan" winds continued from 11th November, 1910, to 4th February, 1911.

MILITARY.

The Southern Nigeria Regiment of the West African Frontier Force took part in the following operations during 1910:—

Abini Patrol (continued): 1st January to 11th January.
Ogwashi-Uku Patrol: 7th January to 27th May.
Obudu Escort: 4th March to end of April.
Akembara Escort: 10th April to 29th April.
Okija Patrol: 16th September to 3rd October.
Ogunta Escort: 1st October to 10th October.
Buanchor Escort: 18th October to 30th November.
Orlu Patrol: 22nd November to end of year.

SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

For the purpose of briefly describing the social condition of the people, Southern Nigeria may be divided into two parts, the Western Province forming one, and the Central and Eastern Provinces together forming the other. The Yoruba-speaking tribes, which occupy practically the whole of the Western Province, have attained a state of civilisation many degrees higher than that reached by the numerous tribes of the other two provinces, and on this account should be considered separately.

Pride of race is one of the factors that have pushed the Yoruba onward, whilst past wars with neighbours, together with internal disruption, have assisted in making him keen, wide-awake, and comparatively energetic. Excellent eugenic marriage laws have helped him to keep down disease and maintain unimpaired the physique of his race.

The Yorubas are law-abiding, and a sound system of laws is administered by the native authorities with the assistance of the British officers stationed in the various districts. The most perfect compromise between British and native law in all Southern Nigeria is, perhaps, that of the "mixed" court at Abeokuta, the capital of Egbaland, where the District Commissioner sits as president, with two Egba judges to assist him.

The Yorubas are to a very large extent pagan; there are, however, numerous European missions established throughout the province, while the Moslem faith has many adherents. A large number of well-attended schools, Government and otherwise, exist, and the advantages of education are much sought after.

It may be said of the Yoruba that he is to-day the readiest of all the tribes of Southern Nigeria, possibly in all tropical West Africa, to adopt, and to adapt himself to, that "civilization" which British rule deems good for him.

Turning to the Central and Eastern Provinces, we find, with few exceptions, the pure-bred Inokun or Aro of the Ibo race, the Bini of the Benin territories, and the Igara with his wonderfully organised feudal system—a congeries of tribes speaking a multitude of different languages and dialects, all in degree somewhat inferior to the Yoruba-speaking people.

Of these tribes, the lowest in the social scale are undoubtedly the Ibibios and the fishing folk of the creek region of the Niger delta; these people have the most degraded customs, and lead lives but little above the existence of animals. Between these lowest tribes and the superior Binis, Igaras, and Inokuns or Aros, come the Cross River tribes, the Efiks of Calabar, the Jekris, Ijaws, and Sobos of the Central Province, and the various Ibo-speaking tribes of the country lying between the Niger and Cross Rivers—all of them inferior to the Yoruba of the Western Province, but superior in various degrees to the Ibibio and Niger delta people.

Native councils and courts, under the supervision of the European officers in charge of districts, administer native law in so far as it is not incompatible with any statute and not repugnant to natural justice.

The tribes of the Central and Eastern Provinces are generally pagan; many missions stations are to be found, however, through-

out the country. As in the Western Province many Government and non-Government schools are established and are well-attended.

British occupation is gradually making great changes in the social condition of the people, the construction of railways, roads, and telegraphs having, perhaps, the most marked effect in this direction. The philosopher may view the rapidity of these changes with some misgiving, and may doubt if the natives themselves are really any happier for them; but a period of transition is always painful and difficult, and good often comes out of what seems to be an evil. The welfare of the country rests principally with the native himself, and there are not wanting signs that there is springing up a group of intelligent, thinking men, born and educated in Southern Nigeria, who, imbued with love of country, are devoting themselves to its development and future prosperity on right lines.

IMPORTANT EVENTS.

During the year, dredging operations on the bar, commenced in 1907, were continued by the dredgers "Egerton" and "Sandgrouse." The work was interfered with in September in consequence of the grounding of the "Sandgrouse," which necessitated her return to England. The bar draught, which had been 14 feet at the end of 1909, was raised to 15 feet for twin-screw steamers only, on January 24th, and to 16 feet for twin-screws and 15 feet for single-screws on April 5th. It was reduced to 13 feet for all vessels on the 29th of the same month, at which it remained until the 3rd December when it was raised to 14 feet.

The Director of Marine visited Holland, Belgium, and Germany in December, with a view to studying reclamation work in order, if possible, to improve the methods in vogue in Southern Nigeria.

Reclamation work to the extent of 138,000 tons was carried out during the year by the "Sandgrouse," as follows:—

	Tons.
Lagos	63,000
Apapa	42,000
Forcados	33,000

and the value of such work cannot be over estimated. The small pontoon dredger, "Barmaid," was engaged throughout the year in reclamation work at Forcados and Bonny.

The construction of the East Mole was pushed on, and 1,539 feet were added, bringing the total length on December 31st to 4,068 feet, calculated from the wharf.

The work on the West Mole was confined to the erection of a wharf, clearing bush, &c. The approach has been built and the line laid on it to the foreshore, ready for unloading material when it arrives.

The trans-Niger extension of the railway from Jebba towards Zungeru had reached a distance of 79 miles on December 31st.

The branch line from Ebute-Metta to Apapa, constructed in order to facilitate the working of the stone traffic for the harbour works, was nearly completed, but the work on the wharf will take some considerable time to complete.

A provincial Agricultural Show was held at Ibadan in January, and was quite successful. A larger one was held in Lagos in December, and attracted exhibitors from Northern Nigeria, the Gold Coast, and England.

The preliminary work in connection with the scheme for a water supply for Lagos from the Iju Valley was continued, and although difficulty was experienced in regard to the supply of labour, it is estimated that the water supply will be laid on in Lagos early in 1914.

The anti-mosquito campaign was more vigorously pursued as a result of Sir Rubert Boyce's visit to West Africa and his declaration that yellow fever was undoubtedly endemic on the coast.

The following changes in the civil establishment have to be recorded:—

Sir Walter Egerton, K.C.M.G., proceeded on leave on June 7th, and Mr. J. J. Thorburn, C.M.G., acted as Governor until the 12th November. Mr. Thorburn was appointed Governor of the Gold Coast Colony, and left Lagos to take up his new duties on November 20th. Mr. F. S. James, C.M.G., acted as Colonial Secretary from the 7th June to the 11th November.

GENERAL CONDITION OF THE COLONY AND PROTECTORATE.

There can be no doubt of the unexampled prosperity of Southern Nigeria, as indicated by the trade and revenue returns; and the people of the country and the Administration can well be proud of the remarkable rate of progress, which shows no sign of diminution. When it is borne in mind that a very large portion of the country is only nominally under control, and that the absence of good means of communication militates against the prospecting and opening up to trade of many large areas of productive land, it is evident that the vast possibilities of this part of West Africa are only beginning to be realised; with the steady advance into the interior, and rapid construction of good roads, the extension of the railway, and the systematic clearing of waterways, trade should continue to develop, and with the advent of the trader and the closer contact with civilisation, the work of administration and progress should be rendered easier and more effective.

In conclusion I would like to express my gratitude to Captain Beverley, the Intelligence Officer, who has given me the greatest assistance in the compilation of the Blue Book and this report.

F. S. JAMES,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

19th August, 1911.

APPENDIX I.

Statement showing the Importation of Spirits into Nigeria during the Five Years ended 31st December, 1910.

Year.	Quantity in gallons.*	Declared value.	Revenue derived from duties.	Duty chargeable.	Explanations.
		£	£		
1906	3,321,303	301,738	600,784	From 22nd December, 1906, 4*s.* the imperial gallon, not exceeding 50 degrees by Tralles' Alcoholometer, and an additional 1*d.* for every degree or part of a degree in excess of 50 degrees.	Spirit imports amounted to 10·6 per cent. of whole inward trade.
1907	4,055,209	385,505	806,942	As above	Spirit imports amounted to 10 per cent. of whole inward trade.
1908	3,235,670	332,577	691,190	As above	Spirit imports amounted to 7·76 per cent. of whole inward trade.
1909	2,950,111	308,770	639,503	From 15th January, 1909, 5*s.* the imperial gallon, not exceeding 50 degrees by Tralles' Alcoholometer, and for every degree or part of a degree in excess of such strength an additional duty of 2½*d.* per imperial gallon. For every degree below such strength a reduction of 1½*d.* per imperial gallon. Minimum duty 4*s.* per imperial gallon.	Value of spirit imports amounted to 6·22 per cent. of whole inward trade, including specie.
1910	4,748,139	456,485	999,833	As above	Value of spirit imports amounted to 7·79 per cent. of whole inward trade, including specie.

* The quantity actually taken into consumption is shown for each year.

APPENDIX II.

Work conducted at the Imperial Institute during the Year 1910 for the Colony of Southern Nigeria.

Reports on the following subjects have been furnished to the Government of Southern Nigeria from the Imperial Institute as the result of investigations conducted in the Scientific and Technical Department, supplemented when necessary by technical trials by manufacturers and commercial experts. In some cases recommendations have been made as to the further action which is required in the Colony to develop the production of materials for which there would be a satisfactory commercial demand.

Cotton.

Four samples of cotton, which were probably all native varieties, were of satisfactory length but of poor quality and had apparently suffered from the attack of insect pests. A specimen from Illushi was decidedly superior to most West African cottons and was worth about 1*d.* per lb. in advance of "middling" American.

Fibre.

A sample of "Ndekhe" fibre was examined and found to be suitable for rope-making.

Silk.

A small consignment of native silk consisted of aggregations of cocoons of *Anaphe* sp. The material was dirty, and when degummed, yielded silk of poor strength and quality. This product could not be reeled, but might possibly be utilised as "spun silk."

Rubber.

Two samples of Para rubber (*Hevea brasiliensis*) from Ebute Metta consisted of light-coloured, well-prepared biscuits, free from impurity, and exhibiting excellent physical properties. They were valued in London at 9*s.* and 8*s.* 10*d.* per lb. respectively, with fine hard Para at 9*s.* 10*d.* per lb.

A consignment of about 30 lbs. of Para rubber from Orugbo consisted of light-brown, well-prepared biscuits exhibiting very good physical properties but of rough appearance. The consignment was sold in London at 8*s.* 10¼*d.* per lb., with fine hard Para at 9*s.* 10*d.* per lb.

A sample of Para rubber, prepared at Calabar consisted of two small pieces of light-brown rubber, one of which exhibited good physical properties whilst the other was weak. The chemical composition of the rubber was satisfactory, and consignments similar to the stronger piece would be worth about 7*s.* 6*d.* per lb. in London with fine hard Para at 10*s.* per lb.

A sample of supposed Landolphia rubber from Calabar consisted of twelve small pieces of light-brown rubber which exhibited good physical properties, and were very satisfactory in composition. The rubber was valued at about 7*s.* per lb. in London with fine hard Para at 10*s.* per lb.

A sample of *Funtumia elastica* rubber prepared at Oloke-Meji by boiling the latex, consisted of light-brown biscuits which were of rather rough appearance but exhibited very good physical properties. The sample was valued at 8*s.* per lb. in London, with fine hard Para at 10*s.* 6*d.* per lb., and Lagos and Benin lump rubber (selected) at 4*s.* 11*d.* to 5*s.* 3*d.* per lb.

The latex of *Mimusops multinervis* was found to yield on coagulation a sticky product which became hard and brittle on standing. This brittle substance contained 66 per cent. of resin and 29 per cent. of a somewhat friable gutta-like material, which softened and became plastic on warming. On account of its brittle character the product does not appear likely to be of commercial value.

Copra and Cocoanut Oil.

A sample of copra was equal in appearance to Ceylon copra but yielded an oil which was more acid than that furnished by the latter. It was valued at £19 per ton in the United Kingdom (June, 1910). A sample of cocoanut oil was of the usual character, and if quite clean would be readily saleable at the current market price.

Oil-palm Products.

The investigation of the products of the different varieties of the West African oil-palm, including those occurring in Southern Nigeria, was completed, and an exhaustive article on the subject, containing suggestions for the improvement of the oil-palm industries of West Africa, was published in the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute," Vol. VII. (No. 4). Further samples of oil-palm products were received from Southern Nigeria and reported on during 1910.

Copal.

Three grades of copal submitted for examination and valuation proved to be "recent" copals of fair quality. The best grade was valued at 45*s.* to 47*s.*, and the other two at 35*s.* per cwt.

Dyestuffs.

A sample of the wood of *Sarcocephalus esculentus*, said to be used in the Colony as a yellow dye, proved on examination to be devoid of tinctorial properties.

Leguminous Seeds.

Several varieties of beans were examined and found to be suitable for feeding animals or for human food.

Drugs.

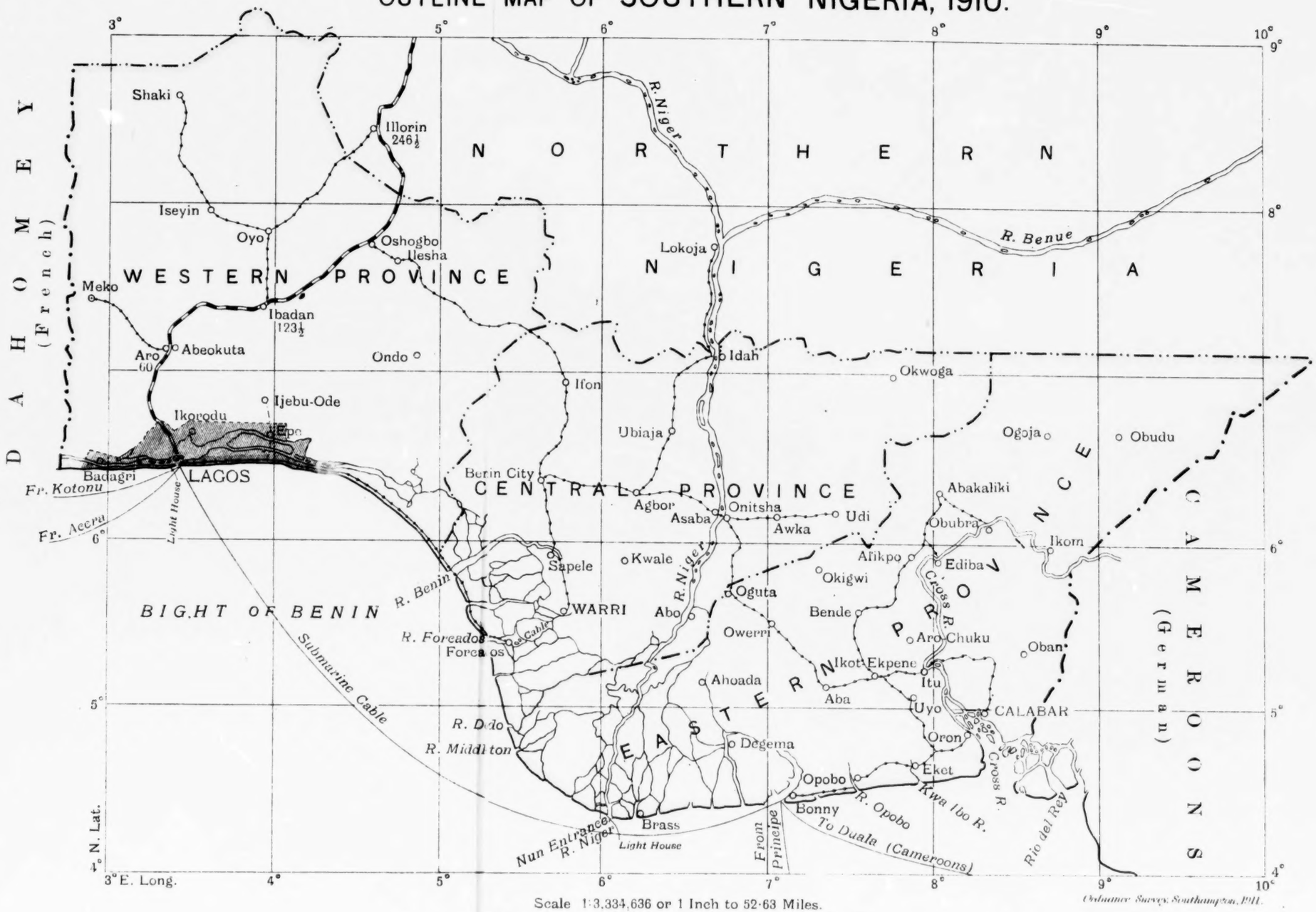
Herbarium specimens of the so-called "bitter kola," the seeds of which were examined at the Imperial Institute in 1909 and shown to contain no caffeine, were received and identified at Kew as *Garcinia conruana*, Engl.

Minerals.

A large number of specimens collected by the Mineral Surveyors were received for examination during the year. The report on those collected by the Surveyors during 1907-08 was ready for publication at the end of 1910 and has since been issued in the Miscellaneous Series of Colonial Reports [Cd. 5517].

The samples of minerals received independently of the Mineral Survey included about 150 specimens of borings from wells sunk in the course of a search for petroleum in the Colony. Samples of clays and limestones were also examined, to ascertain whether they were suitable for the manufacture of cement, and various specimens of rocks and sands were received for identification.

OUTLINE MAP OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA, 1910.



Scale 1:3,334,636 or 1 Inch to 52·63 Miles.

0 50 100 150

Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1911.

REFERENCE

Railway constructed ..... ▬▬▬▬

Telegraph ,, ... ·····

,, under construction ..... – – – –

Headquarters of Administrative Districts ..... ○

Portion of Southern Nigeria known as the Colony ..... ▨

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
660	Barbados	1909-1910
661	Swaziland	"
662	Jamaica	"
663	Straits Settlements	"
664	Trinidad and Tobago	"
665	Southern Nigeria	1909
666	Mauritius	"
667	British Honduras	"
668	St. Vincent	1909-1910
669	East Africa Protectorate	"
670	Uganda	"
671	British Guiana	"
672	St. Lucia	1909
673	Leeward Islands	1909-1910
674	Northern Nigeria	1909
675	St. Helena	1910
676	Gibraltar	"
677	Basutoland	1909-1910
678	Weihaiwei	1910
679	Gambia	"
680	Ashanti	"
681	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
682	Falkland Islands	"
683	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
684	Bahamas	1910-1911
685	Colonial Survey Committee	"
686	Malta	"
687	Imperial Institute	1910
688	Gold Coast	"
689	Fiji	"
690	Somaliland	"
691	Hong Kong	"
692	Nyasaland	1910-1911
693	Seychelles	1910
694	Sierra Leone	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Surveys, 1906-7 and 1907-8.
75	West Indies	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.

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1911.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 735.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

REPORT FOR 1911.

(For Report for 1910, *see* No. 695.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1912.

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No. 735.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

(For Report for 1910, *see* No. 695.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Lagos, Southern Nigeria,
19th August, 1912.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith six copies of the Blue Book for 1911 and also two copies of the report thereon.

I have, &c.,

F. S. JAMES,
Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable,
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
&c., &c., &c.

(26367—2.) Wt. 29478—571. 1125 & 90. 10/12. D & S. A 2

ANNUAL BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1911.

FINANCIAL.

The total actual revenue collected during the year amounted to £1,956,176. This figure is the largest on record, exceeding the anticipated income as finally revised by the sum of £106,176, and showing an increase of £22,941 over the figures for the year 1910. The details are as follows:—

Head of Revenue.	1911.	1910.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs Duties	1,439,386	1,440,284	—	898
Harbour and Lighting Dues ...	2,423	2,315	108	—
Licences, &c.	19,911	22,146	—	2,235
Fees of Court, &c.	93,940	131,566	—	37,626
Postal Revenue	14,196	14,119	77	—
Rent of Government Properties	2,470	2,273	197	—
Interest	53,178	51,332	1,846	—
Miscellaneous	22,532	2,576	19,956	—
Railway and Tramway	307,912	265,661	42,251	—
Total	1,955,948	1,932,272	64,435	40,759
Land Sales	228	963	—	735
Total	1,956,176	1,933,235	64,435	41,494

The percentage of contribution of main revenue heads to total revenue was as follows:—

	1911.	1910.
Customs Duties	73·6	74·5
Railway	15·8	13·7
Fees of Court, &c.	4·8	6·8
Licences, &c.	1·0	1·1
Postal	0·7	0·7

An analysis of Customs revenue gives the following results:—

	1911.	1910.
	£	£
Specific Duties	1,275,601	1,232,100
Ad valorem Duties ...	163,785	208,184
	1,439,386	1,440,284

The principal articles yielding duty were:—

—	Per cent. to total Customs Duties.	1911.	1910.
		£	£
Spirits	67·8	975,557	999,833
Cotton Goods	8·1	117,007	133,551
Tobacco	9·8	141,155	100,345

The total expenditure on all Heads of Service, exclusive of expenditure from Loan Funds on certain specific undertakings, amounted to £1,717,259, of which the following are the details:—

Head of Expenditure.	1910.	1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Charge on Account of Public Debt.	207,683 5 5	228,042 8 8	20,359 3 3	—
Pensions and Gratuities...	14,475 3 1	16,438 0 4	1,962 17 3	—
Governor's Office	9,169 9 2	9,126 14 6	—	42 14 8
Colonial Secretariat ...	15,519 3 5	16,499 11 2	980 7 9	—
Political and Administrative.	78,956 12 8	83,238 12 5	4,281 19 9	—
Judicial	13,151 10 2	13,875 12 11	724 2 9	—
Legal	3,503 15 9	3,709 16 7	206 0 10	—
Treasury	14,875 7 9	15,791 16 11	916 9 2	—
Customs	35,731 14 0	38,809 12 6	3,077 18 6	—
Postal	15,647 7 9	16,505 11 5	858 3 8	—
Telegraphs	26,362 13 0	27,682 18 1	1,320 5 1	—
Audit	8,569 14 11	8,641 6 11	71 12 0	—
Printing	10,371 14 6	11,298 10 0	926 15 6	—
West African Frontier Force.	104,863 19 0	91,803 0 6	—	13,060 18 6
Volunteer Force	2,098 8 11	2,084 1 2	—	14 7 9
Marine	118,655 18 10	120,140 14 10	1,484 16 0	—
Civil Police	45,843 0 1	47,959 3 6	2,116 3 5	—
Prisons	37,915 3 0	45,635 17 9	7,720 14 9	—
Forestry	13,225 10 0	15,046 9 4	1,820 19 4	—
Agriculture	14,638 1 10	10,442 15 1	—	4,195 6 9
Medical	63,482 15 9	67,804 18 9	4,322 3 0	—
Medical Research ...	679 0 0	690 0 0	11 0 0	—
Laboratory	658 3 1	694 5 6	36 2 5	—
Sanitary	4,610 11 5	5,732 0 0	1,121 8 7	—
Native Affairs	21,956 1 10	22,707 16 5	751 14 7	—
Education	25,896 15 0	27,158 19 8	1,262 4 8	—
Surveys	12,373 2 0	21,636 6 6	9,263 4 6	—
Mineral Survey	2,036 8 0	2,145 8 6	109 0 6	—
Lands	1,132 16 11	1,257 8 8	124 11 9	—
Rent	2,160 8 0	2,247 5 1	86 17 1	—
Charitable	371 0 2	480 12 2	109 12 0	—
Transport	70,601 14 0	68,019 15 6	—	2,581 18 6
Motor Transport	5,401 4 5	5,882 3 8	480 19 3	—
Contribution to Northern Nigeria.	70,000 0 0	70,000 0 0	—	—
Miscellaneous Services ...	53,169 15 8	55,879 11 1	2,709 15 5	—
Public Works Department.	41,253 0 9	49,979 1 7	8,726 0 10	—
Roads Construction ...	7,388 3 1	179 3 4	—	7,208 19 9
Works and Buildings Annually Recurrent.	33,118 14 10	31,318 1 11	—	1,800 12 11
Roads and Bridges Annually Recurrent.	13,903 2 4	13,787 10 8	—	115 11 8
Railway	154,697 19 9	175,229 7 2	20,531 7 5	—
Tramway	3,821 15 10	3,796 5 6	—	25 10 4
Carter and Denton Bridges.	1,224 5 2	1,997 10 4	773 5 2	—
Works and Buildings Extraordinary.	97,151 6 4	106,412 4 10	9,260 18 6	—
Roads and Bridges Extraordinary.	56,176 15 7	32,961 17 7	—	23,214 18 0
Telegraphs Extraordinary	7,086 10 7	10,118 16 1	3,032 5 6	—
Marine Extraordinary ...	50,673 1 7	66,882 6 10	16,209 5 3	—
Railway Capital Works	—	49,487 11 1	49,487 11 1	—
	1,592,282 5 4	1,717,259 3 0	177,237 16 6	52,260 18 10
Extraordinary Expenditure on Loan Works.*	397,696 17 10	—	—	397,696 17 10
	1,989,979 3 2	1,717,259 3 0	177,237 16 6	449,957 16 8

* Since refunded to revenue.

The following figures show total revenue and expenditure for the past five years:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1907	1,459,554	1,217,337
1908	1,387,975	1,357,763
1909	1,361,891	1,648,681
1910	1,933,235	1,592,282*
1911	1,956,176	1,717,259

Exclusive of the public debt, the assets of the Colony exceeded the liabilities on 31st December, 1911, by £1,007,625 compared with a balance in 1910 of £716,714.

A new loan was floated during the year for £5,000,000 for the redemption of the debentures of the 1908 loan and for further reproductive works. Calls made up to the 31st December amounted to £3,223,039. Allowing for the redemption of outstanding debentures of the 1908 loan, which was effected by the 31st March, 1912, the total Public Debt of the Colony then amounted to £6,471,288; on full payment of calls on the 1911 loan it will amount to £8,248,249.

The agreement hitherto existing between the Government and the Bank of British West Africa was terminated at the end of the year, and the conduct of the banking business of the Colony is now unrestricted.

TRADE.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1909	4,529,604	4,114,237	8,643,841
1910	5,122,370	5,258,451	10,380,821
1911	5,234,186	5,354,101	10,588,287

The above figures do not include either specie or Porto-Novo transit goods and produce. They include, however, Government importations and goods and produce passing through the Central Province to and from Northern Nigeria.

In comparison with the total imports and exports for 1911, viz., £10,588,287, it is of interest to note that the average for the five years 1900-1904, which included Porto-Novo transit goods and produce, was £4,330,000 only, while the average trade for the following six years 1905-1910, excluding Porto-Novo transit trade and specie, was £7,508,773.

Deducting Government imports and exports for each of the last two years, and excluding specie, the following figures show the purely commercial inward and outward shipments of Nigeria, taking Northern and Southern together.

* Exclusive of the sum of £397,696 17*s.* 10*d.* on Account of Expenditure on Loan Works temporarily advanced.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1910	4,578,884	5,256,906	9,835,790
1911	4,725,730	5,353,107	10,078,837

Exclusive of specie, the Northern Nigeria commercial imports and exports for each year were as follows:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1910	258,608	288,311	546,919
1911	335,006	391,777	726,783

Exports of tin ore have risen from £38,165 in 1909 and £72,660 in 1910 to £181,759 in 1911.

Allowing for the Northern Nigeria figures, as quoted, the following are found to be the net commercial imports and exports of Southern Nigeria:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1910	4,320,000	4,968,000	9,288,000
1911	4,390,000	4,961,000	9,351,000

These figures do not include specie, Government importations, Northern Nigeria goods and produce, or Porto-Novo transit goods and produce, and, therefore, fairly represent the net trade of Southern Nigeria.

It will be observed that, taking the Southern Nigeria commercial imports and exports together, there is an increase of only £63,000, in 1911 as compared with 1910—the imports showing an increase of £70,000, while the exports show a decrease of £7,000. The year 1910 constituted a record, the trade figures showing an increase over those for 1909 of £2,950,000, and it could not be expected that this increase would be maintained.

The following average prices obtained for produce in the United Kingdom in 1911 show a decrease on those ruling in 1910, though prices were still good.

——	1911.	1910.	1909.	1908.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Palm Kernels, per ton	18 6 0	19 0 0	15 6 6	13 11 0
Palm Oil (Lagos), per ton ...	31 15 0	33 5 0	26 10 0	25 8 6
Rubber (Lagos Lump), per lb.	0 2 2	0 3 6	0 2 2	0 1 8
Cocoa, per cwt.	2 8 0	2 5 0	2 5 0	2 15 9
Cotton (Mid. American) per lb.	7·03*d.*	7·87*d.*	5·50*d.*	6·18*d.*

The following statistics show the exports of palm-kernels and palm-oil, the mainstay of the Colony's trade, since 1900.

EXPORTS.

Palm Kernels.

Year.	Tons.	£	Remarks.
1900	85,624	833,630	Porto-Novo transit kernels included up to 1904
1901	114,046	948,010	
1902	132,556	1,274,487	
1903	131,898	1,094,349	
1904	139,788	1,278,394	
1905	108,817	1,090,054	
1906	113,347	1,193,939	
1907	133,630	1,658,292	
1908	136,558	1,424,596	
1909	158,849	1,815,967	
1910	172,998	2,450,814	
1911	176,390	2,574,405	

Palm Oil.

Year.	Tons.	£	Remarks.
1900	45,508	681,296	Porto-Novo transit oil included up to 1904.
1901	56,766	813,478	
1902	64,167	957,637	
1903	54,257	847,954	
1904	57,947	929,168	
1905	50,562	857,848	
1906	57,260	1,001,648	
1907	65,473	1,313,960	
1908	65,460	1,154,933	
1909	82,130	1,447,163	
1910	76,850	1,742,234	
1911	79,337	1,696,876	

The exports of palm-kernels and palm-oil show increases on the figures for 1910, though, on account of the lower prices obtained for the latter product, the value of that article shows a decrease of over £45,000. As the progress of the colony depends on the exports of palm-produce, it is satisfactory to note that the exports of oil and kernels are being maintained, as the following figures indicate.

Kernels.

1906-08 average	127,845	tons per annum.
1909-11 ,, ...	169,412	,, ,,
1911 alone	176,390	,,

Oil.

1906-08 average	62,731	tons per annum.
1909-11 ,, ...	79,206	,, ,,
1911 alone	79,337	,,

Oil and Kernels together.

1906-08	average	... ...	190,576 tons per annum.
1909-11	,,	... ...	248,851 ,, ,,
1911 alone		... ...	255,727 ,,

The following quantities of the principal Southern Nigeria products were exported in the last two years:—

		1910.			
Palm kernels, tons	172,998	of which Northern Nigeria contributed	...	...	5,810
Palm oil, tons ...	76,850	,,	,,	,,	113
Rubber, lbs. ...	2,634,023	,,	,,	,,	519,943
Lint cotton, lbs.	2,478,336	,,	,,	,,	58,688
Cocoa, lbs. ...	6,567,181	,,	,,	,,	—
Maize, tons ...	5,096	,,	,,	,,	—
		1911.			
Palm kernels, tons	176,390	,,	,,	,,	4,549
Palm oil, tons ...	79,337	,,	,,	,,	114
Rubber, lbs. ...	2,164,285	,,	,,	,,	752,569
Lint cotton, lbs.	2,238,208	,,	,,	,,	32,816
Cocoa, lbs. ...	9,858,774	,,	,,	,,	—
Maize, lbs. ...	1,941,744	,,	,,	,,	—

The exports of rubber have declined by over 200 tons, and cotton by 107 tons, but cocoa shows a large increase, the exports for 1911 exceeding those for 1910 by 3,292,000 lbs.—an increase of 50 per cent.

FORESTRY.

The Chief Conservator of Forests made several short tours through the Ibadan, Oyo, and Ijebu-Ode Districts of the Western Province, in the course of which the Mamu Reserve, where rubber tapping was being undertaken, and the Oshun River Reserve, were inspected. In addition to this he made an extended tour through the Central Province of some two months duration and then proceeded to Northern Nigeria on special duty, where another seven weeks were spent in touring through that country.

During his stay in the Central Province he inspected several of the best native communal rubber plantations where tapping and the preparation of rubber were in full progress. Some of the plantations are really very fine examples of their kind and should eventually form valuable native estates.

The most interesting portion of the country, however, that was gone over was the Niger-Cross River divide—an extensive, plateau-like watershed with steep escarpments and ravines facing the east. It varies in altitude from 1,200 to about 2,000 feet above sea-level and, at the time it was visited, August—September, delightfully bracing cold weather was experienced on it.

Mr. Thompson reports as follows:—

The Ibo tribes, inhabiting that part of the country, have, from long continued farming on the exposed wind-swept ridges, absolutely denuded them of forest growth and transposed them into

rolling grass-covered downs similar to those met with in Sussex. Owing to the strong winds that are prevalent on the highlands, tree growth has now become arrested, and only low grasses and small dwarfed bushes can successfully occupy the exposed situations. This state of affairs has driven the inhabitants to adopt an intensive system of agriculture in which the crops are protected by high mud walls which retain the drainage water and at the same time protect the crops from the drying effect of the winds. Similarly the only large trees met with on the plateau are growing within the native compounds, and in places they are so densely spaced as to give rise to compact blocks of tree vegetation under which moisture-loving crops are grown.

Every year, during the dry season, grass fires sweep over the downs and further cripple the shrubby vegetation in its struggle for existence. Large herds of sleek-looking cattle, by continually grazing over the same areas and trampling on seedlings, complete the suppression of all woody growth and prevent the latter from maintaining any but a most precarious existence. As can easily be imagined from the prevalence of such conditions, erosion of the hillsides and escarpments is proceeding at a rapid pace, especially along the eastern face of the watershed where "river capture" is in operation, and feeders of the Cross River are eating across the plateau, and thus diverting into their own drainage areas feeders of the Niger which belongs to a totally distinct water-system.

Every year, enormous quantities of soil are washed off the plateau and deposited at the foot on the eastern face, where the streams are getting blocked up with sand and the whole country is being turned into a sandy waste on which agriculture is no longer possible. The Cross River tributaries are eating across the plateau from east to west in several places, and if the erosion is not stopped a fine healthy tract of country will be cut up into irregular blocks of hills separated one from another by steep and very deep ravines, and the process will continue until the hills themselves are levelled down, and the materials derived from them deposited over the country in the form of unfertile (sandy) soil. Some of the largest towns are now situated on the very edge of the ravines, and there is no doubt that in course of time the sites themselves will be eroded away.

This plateau offers possibly one of the finest examples of hill erosion to be seen in the tropics, and furnishes a good object lesson of what results are to be expected from the unrestricted destruction of forest vegetation. Nothing but strict fire protection, prevention of grazing, the planting up of the ravine heads and sides with soil-binding vegetation, and the paving of the beds of the ravines can now arrest the process of erosion that is going on.

In the *Western Province* three reserves in the Meko District, aggregating some 230 square miles, were finally gazetted during the course of the year. A large number of selected areas still await settlement and the completion of the preliminary arrangements. From the *Central Province* no changes are reported. In the *Eastern Province* a suitable area some 12 square miles in extent near the Yakko River has been selected for reservation; it is said to be covered with good high forest.

Western Province.—The following new plantations were made in the Mamu Reserve during the year:—Teak, 9 acres; ceara, 3 acres; and Para, 20 acres. The older plantations were maintained and several thousands of blanks were filled up in the *Funtumia* compartments. Both teak and mahogany (*Khaya Punchii*) show very good growth in this reserve. Measurements of the former give an average girth of 8·8 inches for plants only 2½ years old.

The plantations in the Oshun River Reserve were increased by the addition of the following plants:—290 mahogany, 200 ayon, 1,400 Para, and 603 teak. The existing plantations were maintained, and a large number of Para seedlings were distributed to villagers for communal plantations.

The plantations in the Ilaro Reserve were increased by 1,200 Para plants, 2,000 dalbeigia sisso, 1,500 teak, 2,000 mahogany, and 800 ceara.

Native communal rubber plantations, 155 in number, were made during the year, chiefly in the eastern districts of the province. This is a great improvement on the results of previous years as the natives have hitherto been very apathetic in the matter.

Central Province.—The small mahogany plantations made in previous years by different villages are doing extremely well. In 1911 the number of villages that undertook such operations was 47 and they have planted out 4,020 seedlings, which are said to have been well looked after.

It is a matter for some congratulation that the native communities of the Benin District have been induced to take up communal plantations of long rotation timber crops, from which returns cannot be expected for many years. The movement should be encouraged as much as possible and there is no doubt that a system of small "payments by results" would give a great impetus to the planting and make it almost as popular as the rubber plantations. The Conservator of Forests is preparing a scheme of planting for the consideration of Government.

The annual creation of communal rubber plantations was maintained during the year when 224 villages planted out 67,753 *Funtumia elastica* seedlings; this is exclusive of 4,133 Para rubber plants that were put down under the same scheme.

Communal plantations of ceara rubber were also started in the drier parts of the Province but it is not proposed to extend them until some satisfactory and remunerative method of extracting the latex has been discovered. The Ogba Plantation of mahogany, cedar, oil-palm, ficus, and Para rubber has been maintained and is in a satisfactory condition. The mahogany in particular is doing extremely well.

During the year 68,000 Para rubber seeds were received and distributed as follows:—

Sold to various persons	11,000
Distributed to village communal plantations ...	18,400
,, Benin City chiefs' plantation ...	28,200
,, Forestry compound, Benin City ...	10,400
Total	68,000

The Benin City chiefs are making a large Para plantation one mile out of Benin City on both sides of the Benin-Sapele road.

Eastern Province.—Some 61,000 Para seeds were received in November. Of these 25,000 were sold to a local firm and the rest were planted in a nursery near Idundu, six miles from Calabar. By the end of the year several thousands had germinated. It is proposed to distribute the seedlings to villages for the creation of communal rubber plantations, several of the former, along the Odukpani road, having already promised to start such plantations if supplied with seedlings.

Large quantities of *Funtumia elastica* seeds as well as those of the ordinary ceara plant have been collected and distributed for making communal plantations in various parts of the Province.

Several pounds of teak seed brought from Togoland by the Conservator of Forests are ready for planting as soon as the proper season arrives.

Exploitation of Major Forest Produce.

In the *Western Province* five licensed timber areas were exploited, whilst applications for sixteen new areas were received, of which seven were provisionally granted.

Felling permits for 855 trees for the export trade were issued during the year. In addition fees were paid on 260 logs cut in previous years under the old rules. The total number of logs that passed Epe was 1,220.

On unreserved lands 922 trees were felled for local use whilst 63 were cut within forest reserves.

In the *Central Province* the number of licensed timber areas worked during the year was 40, as compared with 36 in 1910. Applications were made for eight areas, of which seven were provisionally granted.

Felling permits for the export trade were issued for 4,757 trees, being an increase of 73 trees on the figures for 1910. The majority of the trees felled were mahoganies but 29 iroko and 91 walnut trees were also cut.

The number of trees cut for local sales for 1911 is 728 trees, as compared with 577 trees in 1910.

The revenue derived from timber during 1911 and in the previous year was as follows:—

	1910.			1911.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Revenue on timber for export	10,683	10	0	10,668	2	0
Revenue on timber sale locally	98	6	0	158	6	0
Royalties paid to chiefs and villages	2,207	0	0	2,452	18	0
Half royalties paid to forestry reservation fund	127	2	0	48	10	0
Total	13,115	18	0	13,327	16	0

This shows a net increase of £211 18*s*. 0*d*. for 1911.

The number of logs exported during 1911 was 12,794 valued at £51,695 1*s*. 0*d*. as against 14,019 logs valued at £54,396 of the previous year.

It is gratifying to note that mechanical appliances, such as tramways, traction engines, &c., for the hauling of timber are about to be tried on several areas. This is a new departure that deserves every success and encouragement.

In the *Eastern Province*.—Applications were received for six timber licences, two of which were provisionally sanctioned, whilst the remaining four were being dealt with when the year closed.

Felling permits were issued for 10 mahogany trees, only six of which were actually felled. The number of logs shipped to Europe was ten.

The following statement shows the quantity and value of major forest produce exported from Southern Nigeria during 1911.

	Quantity.	Value. £
Camwood (cwt)	3	2
Ebony (tons)	75	206
Mahogany (logs)	13,675	55,576

Exploitation of Minor Forest Produce.

Western Province.—During the year 10,497 rubber licences were issued, representing an increase of 1,913 on last year.

The revenue derived from rubber licences amounts to £3,984 representing an increase on the figures for 1910 of £1,429. A further sum of £18 2*s*. 0*d*. was realised on the sale of rubber licences in the Oshun, Ilaro, and Oloke-Meji Reserves.

Some rubber prepared from trees tapped in the Mamu Reserve in 1910 was sold in 1911 and realised £28 1*s*. 5*d*. Tapping experiments were repeated in this reserve during the year under review and resulted in the production of 702 lbs. of dry rubber. Efforts were made to sell this rubber by auction in Lagos, but as only one firm sent a representative to bid, it was withdrawn and shipped to England for sale. No accounts are yet to hand.

In all 5,456 trees were tapped of which 2,039 were wild trees and the balance planted ones. The cost of tapping and preparation amounted to £59 11*s*. 4*d*. or at the rate of 1*s*. 8¼*d*. per lb. of dry rubber.

Central Province.—The number of rubber licences issued was 1,756, as compared with 1,541 in the previous year; owing, however, to an alteration in the proportion in which the fees are to be divided between the Government and the native communities the revenue derived from the licences was £491 15*s*. 0*d*., as compared with £770 10*s*. 0*d*. for 1910.

The number of communal rubber plantations tapped during the year was 300, as compared with 84 plantations in 1910. The total number of trees tapped was 20,210, compared with 4,706 last year, and the former yielded 1,885 lbs. 11 ozs. dry weight of rubber.

The loss of weight in drying was 41·5 per cent. and the average yield per tree was 1·59 ozs., as compared with 1·406 ozs. last year.

The rubber was sold in lots by auction at Benin City and realised £544 19*s*. 10*d*.—the average price per lb. being 3*s* 8¾*d*. —the highest price obtained being 4*s*. 8½*d*. per lb. The price of best plantation Para at the time varied from 4*s*. 5½*d*. to 4*s*. 6*d*.

The Conservator of Forests reports that the improvement in the quality of lump rubber recorded in 1910 has been maintained.

The average price of native lump rubber throughout the year was 1*s*. 6*d*. per lb.

Eastern Province.—The number of rubber licences issued was 63 as against 100 issued in 1910. The decrease is probably due to the exhaustion of the larger vines from which the bulk of the rubber is procured. *Funtumia Elastica* is very scarce in that Province though its congener *Funtumia Africana* is quite common.

Of other minor forest products, 331 tons of piassava fibre valued at £4,349 were exported.

The total exports of minor forest produce during the year, palm-oil, palm-kernels, sheabutter, and sheanuts being excepted, were as follows:—

Articles.	Quantity.	Value.
		£
Gum copal, lbs. ...	23,025	363
Piassava fibre, tons ..	400	5,109
Rubber, lbs. ...	2,164,286	179,355

These figures include the exports from Northern Nigeria.

The corresponding figures for the whole Colony and Protectorate in 1910 were:—

			£
Gum copal, lbs. ...	30,096	value	459
Piassava fibre, tons	319	,,	3,916
Rubber, lbs. ...	1,607,703	,,	177,315

From this it will be noticed that there was a large increase in the output of rubber during the year under review. Owing, however, to the poor prices realised, the value of the produce was only £179,355, as compared with £177,315 in the previous year. The high prices of 1910 appear to have greatly stimulated the industry and brought about a large increase in the output.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue and expenditure for the year 1911 and the previous year were as follows:—

	1911.	1910.
	£	£
Revenue	17,892	15,723
Expenditure ...	15,046	13,225
Surplus ...	2,846	2,498

AGRICULTURE.

It is not possible, even approximately, to estimate the total area of land cultivated. That it must be very considerable may be judged from the fact that the diet of the natives is mainly of a vegetable nature, the total value of the food-stuffs imported working out at about 1*s.* per head of the population.

Excluding products of the oil-palm, which is not systematically cultivated, the most important crops cultivated for export are cocoa, cotton, ground-nuts, benniseed, and maize. The Para rubber tree (*Hevea brasiliensis*), as will be observed above, is being extensively cultivated in several districts.

Cocoa.

The exports of cocoa show an increase of 50 per cent. as compared with the previous year and were 85 per cent. in excess of the average exports during the preceding five years. The exports of cocoa during the last five years are given below.

Year.	lbs.	Value. £
1907	2,089,225	47,840
1908	3,060,609	50,587
1909	5,019,150	71,916
1910	6,567,181	101,150
1911	9,858,774	164,664
Total for five years ...	26,594,939	436,157
Average for five years	5,318,988	87,231

Experimental plots of cocoa were planted at the Agricultural Department's stations at Agege, Onitsha, and Calabar. This department distributed 370 cocoa fruits and 6,300 cocoa plants to farmers and raised 64,000 cocoa seedlings ready for distributing during the next rainy season.

Cotton.

The quantity of cotton lint exported was 31 per cent. lower than the average annual export of the staple during the preceding five years. The manner in which the exports of cotton lint and cotton seed have fluctuated during the last five years is shown in the subjoined table.

Year.	Cotton Lint.		Cotton Seed.	
	Cwts.	Value. £	Tons.	Value. £
1907	36,514	97,042	4,650	10,938
1908	20,485	53,316	2,496	6,059
1909	44,937	103,270	4,802	11,405
1910	22,128	78,478	2,177	5,472
1911	19,984	66,935	1,908	4,577
Total for five years ...	144,048	399,041	16,033	38,451
Average for five years ...	28,810	79,808	3,207	7,690

530 tons of seeds were distributed for planting, which is a sufficient quantity to plant 48,000 acres of land.

The picking of the 1911-12 crop commenced in December and there is every prospect that the harvest will be greater that that of the preceding season.

Ground-nuts, Benniseed, and Maize.

The exports of maize have decreased yearly since 1908. From being the third in importance of the agricultural products, it is now only fifth, ranking next to ground-nuts and benniseed. The value of the exports of these products during the year was, ground-nuts £10,377, benniseed £3,743, and maize £3,128.

Experimental Tapping of Para Rubber Trees.

Para rubber trees were experimentally tapped at Ebute-Metta, Calabar, and Sapele. The system of tapping employed in each instance was a modified form of that known as the "half herring-bone." The yields obtained are briefly summarised in the subjoined schedule:—

Place.	Name of tree.	Age of tree.	Girth at 3 feet from the ground.	Number of times tapped.	Average yield of dry rubber per tapping.	Average yield of dry rubber per tree.					
						Biscuit.		Scrap.		Total.	
		Years.	Inches.		oz.	lb.	oz.	lb.	oz.	lb.	oz.
Ebute-Metta.	Hevea brasiliensis	18	—	62	1·02	3	0·5	0	15	3	15·5
"	" Variety	19	—	62	·82	2	6·8	0	11·8	3	2·6
Calabar	Hevea brasiliensis	6	24	36	—	0	4·77	0	1·28	0	6·05
Sapele	"	5	22·82	63	0·36	1	1·87	0	4·72	1	6·59
"	"	5	22·82	37	0·38	0	11·10	0	2·95	0	14·05
"	"	5	22·82	63	0·34	1	0·84	0	4·48	1	5·32

In addition to Government plantations, and numerous small plantations owned by natives, there are 241,250 Para rubber trees established in large plantations and 164,350 seedlings in nurseries. During the year the Agricultural Department distributed 80,900 seeds and 6,244 plants of this species.

SHIPPING.

The following statement shows the steamers and sailing ships inwards and outwards compared with the previous year:—

Flag.	Entered.				Cleared.			
	1911.		1910.		1911.		1910.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage	No.	Tonnage.
STEAM :—								
British ...	349	476,175	340	467,471	325	439,663	329	448,892
German ...	197	339,507	211	334,939	196	340,559	210	340,123
French ...	3	6,923	1	1,972	3	6,923	1	1,972
Portuguese ...	—	—	1	181	—	—	1	181
Danish ...	—	—	1	876	—	—	1	876
Dutch ...	2	114	2	18	2	114	2	18
Austrian ...	—	—	1	658	—	—	1	658
SAILING :—								
British ...	—	—	1	540	—	—	1	540
Norwegian ...	1	690	—	—	—	—	—	—
U. S. American	—	—	1	565	—	—	1	565
Total ...	552	823,409	559	807,220	526	787,259	547	793,825

The following statement shows the value of the trade carried by British and foreign vessels during the year compared with the preceding year:—

—					Transit Trade.			
	1911.		1910.		1911.		1910.	
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Entered	4,872,012	808,969	5,105,308	752,027	168,572	38,504	131,473	44,641
Cleared	3,835,003	1,556,464	3,688,728	1,615,458	243,635	237,768	213,060	241,098
Total	8,707,015	2,365,433	8,794,036	2,367,485	412,207	276,272	344,533	285,739

The percentage of trade carried by foreign vessels during the three years 1909–1911 was 25·2, 26·9, and 27·1 respectively.

The total decrease in value of Southern Nigeria trade for 1911 amounted to £89,073 of which British vessels lost £87,021. This is chiefly due to the large decrease in the importation of specie. As regards transit trade there was a total increase over 1910 of £58,217, British vessels securing an increase of £67,674 and foreign vessels losing £9,457.

LANDS.

There is little to add to the report of 1910 in regard to the Central and Eastern Provinces. The issue of leasehold grants by the Crown continues in those divisions, and there are at present 25 such leases in the Eastern Province and 85 in the Central.

An attempt was made during the year to obtain from representatives of the Central Province tribes some record of their system

of land tenure. These proved to be of a more varied character than the customary tenure prevalent in the Western Province, where the existence of a more or less homogeneous system is due probably to the fact that the majority of the inhabitants belong to branches of the Yoruba people. One factor, however, the principle of the inalienability of land, derived from the conception of communal property, appears to be universal.

Attention has been drawn to the fact that the Native Lands Acquisition Ordinance applies to the Western Province as well as to the Eastern and Central Provinces, and the public have been warned that the approval of the Governor is required to ensure the validity of grants of rights over land to aliens within the meaning of the Ordinance. Persons holding leases or other titles granted by native chiefs have been invited to submit them for the Governor's approval.

The fact of the absolute cession of land in the Colony of Lagos under the treaty of 1861 was brought into prominence by the Government's claim to the foreshore abutting premises of two mercantile companies trading in Lagos. A Full Court decided, on appeal, in favour of the Government, but as the question has been made the subject of a further appeal to the Privy Council no action has been taken beyond the publication of a Gazette notice calling attention to the judgment.

The settlement of private claims to land on the Ikoyi Plains, in Lagos, was a matter of some importance. Upon the satisfactory issue of the litigation depended the question whether the large area of some 2,060 acres in all would be available for a scheme which would provide an outlet for the overcrowded Lagos population, an opportunity for laying out recreation grounds and, further, a reserve for European occupation.

Governor Glover had definitely assigned to the Onikoyi (a native chief) and his people the use of 200 acres of land at the eastern end of the plains, reserving the remainder for the use of the Government. Control having thus been established a considerable number of Crown grants were issued over land near the present barracks and on the fringe of the Lagos Lagoon.

Little, however, was done by the natives to improve their land, and in 1908 owing to the fact that many of the grant areas had been lost sight of and abandoned by the owners, it was decided to pass the Ikoyi Lands Ordinance for the purpose of ascertaining and determining the validity of certain claims made by private persons.

Under section 2 of this Ordinance claims to 55 areas were submitted. Thirty of these were derived from Crown grants or conveyances therefrom, and were therefore admitted subject to resurvey and demarcation, and the majority of the rest have since been decided in the Supreme Court. In addition to these certain villages have been granted farming rights by the Supreme Court, and a claim to some 730 acres on the south side of the plain is still *sub judice*.* The Cadastral survey of Lagos has been in progress during the year and it is hoped that a plan showing present occupation will be available in the near future.

* Since decided by the Full Court in favour of the Government.

LEGISLATION.

The principal Ordinances passed during the year under review are:—

1. The Customs Tariff (Amendment) Ordinance, to take the place of a tariff under which every article was subject to duty unless specially exempted.
2. The white Phosphorus Matches Prohibition Ordinance, to prevent the manufacture and prohibit the importation of matches of this description.
3. The Adulteration of Produce (Amendment) Ordinance, to give legal effect to the voluntary system of produce inspection in the three provinces.
4. The Native Currency Repeal Ordinance, for the purpose of demonetizing brass rods and manillas.

EDUCATION.

The number of Government schools in the Colony at the end of the year was 60.

The enrolment and average attendance were as follows:—

Province.	Enrolment at the end of the year.			Average Attendance.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total
Western	686	19	705	528	22	550
Central	2,490	146	2,636	1,666	83	1,749
Eastern	2,223	73	2,296	1,199	40	1,239
Total	5,399	238	5,637	3,393	145	3,538

The total enrolment in Government schools for the preceding year was 4,473; there is thus an increase of 1,164, which is due to accessions in the Central and Eastern Provinces.

The assisted schools numbered 115, an increase of nine, mainly due to seven schools of the Roman Catholic Mission in the Central Province having been added to the list. The subjoined table gives the number of pupils on the roll and the average attendance in these schools.

Province.	Enrolment at the end of the year.			Average Attendance.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Western	4,312	1,599	5,911	3,262	1,250	4,512
Central	2,996	50	3,046	2,481	40	2,521
Eastern	4,430	829	5,259	2,971	410	3,381
Total	11,738	2,478	14,216	8,714	1,700	10,414

The enrolment for the preceding year was 15,120; there is thus a falling off of 904 children. This may be explained by the fact that the assisted schools removed from the list in the Eastern Province, which are for the most part large infants' schools unable to fulfil the requirements of the new code, account for a large decrease, while the schools added to the list in the Central Province are, comparatively speaking, small schools which have been recently opened. The average attendance is less than that of the preceding year by 26 only, it being then 10,440.

The total enrolment for the year of Government and assisted schools was 19,853, that is, 17,137 boys and 2,716 girls. The total average attendance 13,952, that is, 12,107 boys and 1,845 girls. The corresponding totals for 1910 were respectively 19,593 and 13,503.

Returns are not available of the number of children attending non-assisted Christian and Mohammedan schools, but it is estimated that the number is not less than 13,000.

The Hope-Waddell Institute, Calabar, has this year inaugurated a department for training teachers in the Eastern Province, and it is to be hoped that before long some provision in this respect will be made in the Central Province.

The Cambridge University Local Examinations were held in the month of December. Lagos was made a centre for these examinations for the first time in 1910. This year there were 46 candidates: three for the senior grade, 29 for the junior and 14 for the preliminary, seven passing the junior, one the preliminary, and none the senior. All the candidates last year came from King's College with the exception of three, this year the Lagos Grammar School, the Abeokuta Grammar School, the Lagos Wesleyan Boys' High School, and the New High School presented candidates for the examinations.

The number of boys attending King's College, Lagos, has slowly but steadily increased during the year, the attendance being 43 for 1911 as against 16 in 1910.

The amount of school fees collected in Government schools during 1911 is returned as £1,385 and voluntary contributions to the schools amounted to £1,556; adding to these sums a miscellaneous revenue of £284 the total revenue for the year amounted to £3,225 as compared with £2,955 in 1910.

The total expenditure incurred by the Government during the year in the administration of the Education Department, grants to assisted schools, salaries of teachers, buildings, maintenance, &c., amounted to £27,159, an increase of £1,262 in comparison with the previous year.

POLICE.

The authorised establishment on the 31st December, 1911, was 1,388, an increase of 27 as compared with the previous year, and the actual strength was 1,387.

The authorised establishment was:—

European staff	16
Native staff	18
Rank and file	1,354
Total	1,388

The allocation of the actual strength was as follows:—

Western Province	617
Central Province	333
Eastern Province	437
Total	1,387

In the Eastern Province a new detachment was posted at Orlu, and in the Central Province the Udi and Okwoga detachments were increased, and a new sub-detachment was formed at Agbede.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of persons apprehended or summoned before all the courts was 13,893, dealt with as under:—

Discharged for want of prosecution ...	1,952
Discharged on merits...	1,215
Summarily convicted...	10,074
Committed for trial	652
Total	13,893

Of the number of summary convictions 1,041 were for offences against the person, 5 for malicious injury to property, 21 for cattle stealing and arson, 2,363 for other offences against property, and 6,644 for other minor offences.

In the superior courts there were 475 convictions and 214 acquittals, particulars of which are as follows:—

Offences.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
Murder	138	120
Manslaughter	87	20
Attempted murder	18	—
Rape	12	6
Unnatural crimes	1	—
Theft with violence	3	2
Other offences against the person	75	30
Other offences against property...	94	21
Miscellaneous offences	44	15
Malicious injury to property ...	3	—
Total	475	214

PRISONS.

In the Colony and Protectorate there were 43 prisons, and during 1911 26,862 prisoners passed through the registers. Practically all these prisons were inspected and reported upon.

Health in the prisons has greatly improved, and although a much larger number of prisoners were in custody the deaths have decreased during the year by 146. Further improvement is expected as buildings are being improved and new prisons built to replace old ones.

The expenditure on the prisons amounted to £45,636, and the earnings to £26,246, of which £1,350 was cash.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Western Province.

Lagos Hospital.—The out-patient department of the hospital was attended by 6,613 persons (Europeans and natives), whilst the in-patient department treated 1,217 persons (Europeans and natives).

Minor and major operations were performed to the number of 330.

A new wing consisting of three private wards was added to the European hospital.

Yaba Lunatic Asylum.—Thirty-six cases received treatment, two recovered and three deaths occurred.

Yaba Leper Asylum.—Eighteen cases were treated. There was one death.

Central Province.

Onitsha Hospital.—The out-patients numbered 4,566, the in-patients 882. Thirty-five operations were performed.

Warri Hospital.—3,990 out-patients attended. In the European Hospital there were 43 in-patients, with one death, and in the Native Hospital 390 in-patients, with 18 deaths.

Eastern Province.

Calabar Hospital.—6,889 out-patients sought treatment, whilst the European wards treated 123 in-patients, with one death, and the native wards 1,141 in-patients, with 44 deaths.

Calabar Lunatic Asylum.—Three deaths occurred among the 31 inmates of this institution.

Opobo European Hospital.—Two cases received treatment, one of which died.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

By the Census of 1911 the native population of Lagos and Ebute Metta was 72,703. The native population of all three Provinces is approximately:—

Western Province	2,151,483
Central Province	2,407,664
Eastern Province	3,296,602

The number of Europeans was 1,648 (630 officials), whilst Asiatics and other miscellaneous races were returned at 586, making the total population 7,857,983. These figures do not include the shipping in ports on census day.

There were 9 deaths among European officials during the year: 4 blackwater fever, 1 meningitis (malaria), 1 heart disease, 1 accident, 1 nephritis, and 1 murdered. 1,372 European officials were resident during the year, and the number invalided was 41.

SANITATION.

The year 1911 has been one of distinct progress in sanitary work in all parts of the Colony and Protectorate. In the chief centres and larger towns changes for the better are much in evidence, and there is a marked improvement in the condition of those places as compared with a few years ago.

At the beginning of the year the Senior Sanitary Officer visited Panama and Cuba with a view to acquiring information as to yellow fever.

During the year all places in the Western Province were visited by sanitary officers on one or more occasions; in the Central Province several inspections were made of the principal towns on or near the coast; and attention was given to Bonny and Opobo in the Eastern Province.

The sum of £1,000 was voted on the Estimtaes for sanitary work outside Lagos, and out of this various sums were spent on the towns of Badagri, Bonny, Forcados, Ibadan, Opobo, Warri, and other important places. The sum of £960 was issued for anti-mosquito measures, and £590 was authorised for a minor scheme of sanitation at Ibadan in the proximity of the European station.

Anti-mosquito measures, which were initiated at the instance of the late Sir Rubert Boyce, were vigorously carried on throughout the year with good results. In Lagos, especially, there has been a marked decrease in the number of mosquitoes, and, therefore, a diminution in the liability to contract mosquito-borne diseases.

At Lagos good progress is being made with the Iju valley waterworks scheme, and the town may be now said to be well on the way to having a pipe-borne supply. At present all tanks and wells, which contain the only water available, are inspected at least once a week.

A new infectious diseases hospital is in course of building at Lagos.

POSTAL.

The number of articles, exclusive of parcels, passing through the post was 678,253 in excess of the previous year.

The total number of parcels dealt with was 12,957 more than in 1910, and there has also been an increase of 22,105 in the number of registered articles.

The number of cash on delivery parcels and packets received amounted to 15,299, the value of which was £16,286. Of this number 13,560 were delivered, and £14,273 was remitted to the senders in respect of trade charges thereon. All these parcels were received from the United Kingdom.

There was a decrease in money order transactions to the extent of £6,195, whilst postal order business was £14,816 in excess of the previous year's transactions.

SAVINGS BANK.

The amount deposited in the Savings Bank during the year was £26,234, against £23,020 in 1910, an increase of £3,214. The withdrawals amounted to £22,908, as against £22,476 in 1910, an increase of £432.

The bank held a total of £38,437 for 4,368 depositors on 31st December, 1911, as against £34,307 which stood to the credit of 3,933 depositors on 31st December, 1910.

The total sum invested on behalf of the Savings Bank by the Crown Agents for the Colonies in securities approved by the Secretary of State is £30,205.

Interest at 2½ per cent. per annum computed on the various amounts deposited during the year aggregated £805, of which a sum of £56 was paid to depositors who closed their accounts, the difference, viz.: £749 being added to capital in favour of the remaining depositors.

The amount realised by interest on invested Savings Bank Funds was £1,071.

TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

The reconstruction of the telegraph line between Agege and Aro necessitated the erection of 50 miles of poles and 300 miles of wire. The work was completed towards the end of the year, but as the Agege-Itori railway deviation (26 miles) was not opened for traffic, it was necessary to maintain the old telegraph route along this section for electric staff and traffic requirements.

The telegraph line was extended from Jebba to Zungeru (121½ miles) and Minna (160 miles). One Government wire (122½ miles) and three railway wires (367½ miles) were erected on the Jebba-Zungeru section, and three Government wires

(112½ miles) and three railway wires (112½ miles) on the Zungeru-Minna section. The completion of the Government wire resulted in direct telegraphic communication being established between Lagos and Zungeru (430 miles).

An extension of the telegraph line from Epe to Ijebu-Ode was commenced and some 15 miles of poles were erected.

The second wire was completed between Benin City-Agbor (42 miles), Agbor-Asaba (41 miles), and Onitsha-Oguta (38 miles). This work was done in conjunction with transferring the line to the new deviations on the Benin City-Agbor-Asaba Road.

The telegraph line was extended from Abakaliki to Obubra and an office opened at Obubra for traffic on 21st June. Towers, 100 feet high, were erected on each side of the Cross River at Obubra to carry the wire across the river, the span between the towers being 722 yards.

The second wire was completed between Ikot-Ekpene, Aba, Owerri, and Oguta (81 miles). The completion of this section has provided a second wire throughout the main line from Lagos to Warri and Calabar.

The subscriptions to the Lagos Telephone Exchange from the public increased from £321 to £396, and official subscriptions from £727 to £825. At Calabar the public subscriptions to the telephone exchange increased from £212 to £270, and official subscriptions from £290 to £340. At Opobo subscriptions amounted to £162, public £100, and official £62. At Warri a new exchange was started and official subscriptions amounted to £225.

The telegraph service in Southern Nigeria has greatly improved during the year and the service is now, taking into consideration the natural difficulties of maintenance in a tropical country, fairly reliable.

The total length of telegraph lines at the end of the year was 1,829 miles poles and 4,169 miles wire, being an increase during the year of 180 miles poles and 937 miles wire. In addition to the telegraph wires there are 95 miles telephone lines with 374 miles wire.

The number of telegrams dealt with increased from 477,512 to 521,633. There was an increase of 22 per cent. in the receipts from paid telegrams. The value of cablegrams passing over the Southern Nigeria system increased by 40 per cent.

The total revenue increased from £19,769 to £20,544, and the expenditure from £26,363 to £27,683.

RAILWAY.

The gross revenue of the Lagos Railway for the year amounted to £307,092, the working expenses to £176,961, and the net revenue to £130,131.

The number of passengers carried in 1911 was 529,199, yielding a revenue of £63,138, compared with 387,667 passengers and a revenue of £50,324 in 1909. The number of third-class passengers

carried was 510,501, showing an increase over 1910 of 130,677. The tonnage of goods carried in 1911 was 314,862 tons, and the income derived therefrom £230,536, compared with 207,210 tons carried in 1910, producing £191,953. 24,516 tons of stone were carried for the Lagos Harbour Works Scheme. The policy of reducing the third-class passenger fares has been justified in a remarkable manner, and the results of the working of the line for the year are most encouraging.

MOTOR SERVICE.

Traffic on the Ibadan-Oyo Road was greatly increased in the past year, the tonnage for the past three years being as follows:—1909, 1,789 tons, 1910, 1,972 tons, 1911, 3,862 tons.

A one-van service was tried as an experiment on the Oshogbo—Ilesha Road (a distance of 20 miles). The service was found to be in great demand, freight being always obtainable beyond the capacity of the van. It was also much sought after by passengers.

WATERWAYS.

Extensive waterway clearing was carried out during the year 1911 in the three Provinces, and the following are the principal works accomplished:—

Western Province.—A month's work on the sudd region in July sufficed to keep the launch route open throughout. The Yewa River was cleared of sudd and snags as far as Ibio.

Central Province.—The Koko Canal was widened and deepened. The Osiomo River cleared as far as Ibodu waterside, 86 miles above Ologbo. The Ndoni Creek was cleared, and the work carried on up the Orashi River as far as the Oguta Lake. The Niger River waterway parties commenced work on 2nd May at Idah, and cleared down-stream until 17th June when, owing to the water rising considerably, work was abandoned. The Ethiope River was cleared for timber traffic as far as Umutu. In connection with the discovery of coal in the Udi District, the Rivers Anambra, Omerum, and Mamu were surveyed for the purpose of ascertaining their possibilities for transport. A party commenced work on the Omerum River on 4th December, the junction of the Omerum and Mamu Rivers being reached on the 12th, and by the end of the year three miles of the latter river had been cleared.

Eastern Province.—The Ota-Minni River was cleared as far as Nekede, four miles below Owerri, which is practically the limit of navigation. Four and a half months' work was carried out in the River Imo, which was cleared up to its junction with the Ohio Stream, three miles below Udo. The Aiya River was cleared from a point seven miles above Oguromidi to its junction with the River Ewayon.

MARINE SERVICES.

In the Western Province there are two mail and transport services, the Lagos-Ejinrin-Epe run having been discontinued as a separate service. They are:—

(*i.*) Lagos-Porto-Novo Weekly Mail and Transport Service between Lagos and Porto-Novo, calling at intermediate ports. The total number of passengers carried was 4,493, an increase of 761 on the previous year.

(*ii.*) Lagos—Siluko—Sapele Weekly Mail and Transport Service between Lagos and Sapele *via* Siluko, calling at intermediate ports. The total number of passengers carried was 11,548, as compared with 6,127 in 1910.

In the Central Province there are two mail and transport services:—

(*i.*) The Forcados-Burutu-Warri Service.
(*ii.*) The Forcados-Koko-Sapele Service.

During 1911, 11,934 passengers and 1,243 tons of cargo were carried being an increase of 2,894 passengers and 286 tons of cargo over 1910.

In the Eastern Province the services maintained are:—

(*i.*) The Akassa-Bonny-Opobo Mail and Transport Service.
(*ii.*) The Cross River Mail and Transport Service.

The Akassa-Bonny-Opobo Service shows a large increase of freight over 1910, *i.e.*, 478 tons.

The dry season transport on the Cross River has been regularly maintained by means of the shallow draught motor launches "Mosquito," "Spider," and "Sandfly." During the year 17,561 passengers in all were carried by the marine service on the Cross River, an increase of nearly 3,000 over 1910; the cargo carried has decreased, owing to the fact that most of the large trading firms now have their own craft.

ROADS AND WORKS.

Roads.

Western Province.

The total length of roadways in Lagos which have been resurfaced and repaired with laterite amounted to 5 miles 27 chains.

The Marina from the Customs to Porto-Novo Market street has been widened from 18 feet to 30 feet and laid with granite.

Several new laterite roads have been constructed through the principal thoroughfares and a new road through the Ikoyi Plains is under construction.

Ebute-Metta-Yaba road has been carried on to Agege.

Ikirun-Ila road, 21 miles of road completed; gravelling is proceeding.

Ibadan-Oyo road, maintained, strengthened, and kept open for traffic.

Oyo-Iseyin-Oke-Ho-Shaki road, 11 miles completed and strengthened.

Oyo-Ogbomosho road, 6½ miles constructed and a 12 feet bridge erected over the Opeba River.

Oshogbo-Ogbomosho road, 13 miles completed and 6 miles of metalling carried out.

An 18 feet span bridge has been erected over a stream at 3½ miles.

The following road works are in progress:—

Eruwa-Igana bridle path, Ibadan-Lagos Trunk road, and connecting roads to old and new railway station between Agege and Abeokuta.

Central Province.

Onitsha-Awka road, 6 miles of road have been made up, metalled to a depth of 6 inches, blinded, rolled, and drained during the year: and 22 culverts constructed. Several deviations have been carried out and the road straightened generally.

Asaba-Okpanam road, metalling has been continued to 7th mile. A new junction road between the 10th mile and the Agbor road at Issele-Azaba has been commenced.

A large amount of minor road work has been carried out, the most important being:—New road in Warri from Creek Bridge down to lower factories; completion of a permanent bridge over the Okere Creek; construction of Awka-Udi, and Idah-Adoro roads.

It is now possible to motor in a light car from Warri to Sapele, Benin City, Kwale, Agbor, and Asaba on the west side of the Niger: and on the east side from Onitsha to Awka and Udi and from Onitsha to the boundary of the Eastern Province in the direction of Oguta. A short link is being constructed to connect with the Eastern Province roads and when this is finished it will be possible to continue the journey to Itu.

Eastern Province.

Odukpani-Uwet road, metalling on first 8 miles completed.

Ikot-Amin-Kwa Falls path, 6 feet wide, is under construction, and 12 miles has been completed.

Extension of road to Itu Town has been completed

The following are the principal works undertaken during the year under review:—

WORKS.

Western Province.

In Lagos:—

New Government offices (completed).

Quarters for five officers.

Quarters for six junior officers.

In Lagos:—*cont.*
Quarters for Postmaster-General.
Hospital extension.
Double bungalow, Yaba.
Additional quarters Medical Research Institute, Yaba.
Laboratory Medical Research Institute, Yaba.
Reclamation at Alakoro and Elegbata.
Up country:—
Quarters for two officers Forestry Department, Oloke-Meji.
Quarters for Director of Agriculture, Moor Plantation.
Three bungalows, Abeokuta.
Prison, Abeokuta.
Prison, Oyo.

Central Province.

Warri:—
New post office.
Two detached bungalows.
New native hospital.
Onitsha:—
House for Senior Officer.
Drainage Ozala Hill, one main outlet to the river.
Benin City:—New prison.
Sapele:—New prison.

Eastern Province.

Calabar:—
New ward to lunatic asylum.
Two bungalows completed.
Quarters for six second class officers.
Workshop at Fort Stuart.
Association ward, Calabar Prison.
Extension of drainage, 3,000 feet.
Itu:—
Transport shed.
Bungalow.
Post and telegraph office.
District office.
Bonny:—
Extension to hospital.
Swamp reclamation.
Opobo:—
Bungalow for Senior Medical Officer.

CLIMATE.

At Lagos Observatory the mean shade temperature was 79°·6; the highest was 93°·3 in July, and the lowest 65° in January.

The greatest rainfall—203·47 inches—was at Bonny (Lat. 4° 27′ N., Long. 7° 10′ E.), and the least—39·49 inches—at Ibadan (Lat. 7° 24′ N., Long. 3°·53′ E.).

The rainfall at provincial headquarters was:—

Lagos (Lat. 6° 27′ N., Long. 3° 24′ E.), 87·08 inches.
Calabar (Lat. 4° 58′ N., Long. 8° 19′ E.), 121·87 inches.
Warri (Lat. 5° 31′ N., Long. 5° 44′ E.), 130·40 inches.

The "harmattan" winds continued from 17th November, 1911, to 23rd February, 1912.

MILITARY.

The Southern Nigeria Regiment of the West African Frontier Force took part in the following operations during 1911:—

Orlu Patrol: December, 1910, to February, 1911.
Yachi Escort: February, 1911.
Okigwi Escort: February to March.
Abo Escort: February to April.
Afikpo Escort: June to August.
Kuno Patrol: August to October.
Uyo Escort: September to October.
Enube-Ekulu Patrol: November to December.

IMPORTANT EVENTS.

The most important event of general interest in the year under review was probably the census of the Colony and Protectorate. By this enumeration (already referred to in this report under "Vital Statistics") the total population of the country was returned at 7,857,983.

Of this number 7,855,749 are natives of West Africa, and calculated in proportion to the area of the whole territory (79,880 square miles) the average density of population works out at 98·34 per square mile.

The most thickly populated districts were shown to be those around Awka, Bende, Ikot-Ekpene, Owerri, and Uyo, and the most thinly peopled those about Benin, Meko, and Oban—the former group of areas having an average density of no less than 359·37 per square mile while the latter have 10·29 only.

The largest and most virile tribes are the Ibo and the Yoruba, and it may be said that of the $7\frac{3}{4}$ millions inhabitants of Southern Nigeria they account for 3 millions and 2 millions respectively.

GENERAL CONDITION OF THE COUNTRY AND PEOPLE.

The condition of the Western Province may be said to be one of peace and progress. The inhabitants of this territorial division of Southern Nigeria are of a higher type and generally more advanced than the natives of the Central and Eastern Provinces; they have had the advantages of a common language and of a longer period under British influence.

Education and the construction of railways, roads, and telegraphs, have been the chief factors in bringing this portion of the country into its present prosperous position.

As regards the Central and Eastern Provinces it may be said that, on its inception in 1893 as an established administration, the Government found that there was much to be accomplished in order to introduce civilised rule, and the further its officers penetrated into the interior the more evident became the condition of barbarism in which the people were living. Benin was practising terrible fetish rites and breaking every human law, inter-tribal warfare was being generally carried on, and the abominable customs of cannibalism and human sacrifice were rife over the greater part of the Protectorate. This was only nineteen years ago.

These provinces are now in a state of industrial and commercial prosperity, and excellent work in the way of road and telegraph construction has been accomplished. The various tribes inhabiting this portion of Southern Nigeria are generally at peace with each other, and Government control, except over certain small areas in the north of the Eastern Province, is well established.

Education is gradually being introduced into the interior and the general influences of civilisation are steadily making headway in a manner which is effectively, if slowly, accomplishing great changes for the better in the social condition of the people.

D. C. Cameron,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

12th August, 1912.

APPENDIX I.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE IMPORTATION OF SPIRITS INTO NIGERIA DURING THE FIVE YEARS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1911.

Year.	Quantity in gallons.*	Declared value.	Revenue derived from duties.	Duty chargeable.	Explanations.
		£	£		
1907	4,055,209 (1,865,040)	385,505	806,942	From 22nd December, 1906, 4*s.* the imperial gallon, not exceeding 50 degrees by Tralles' Alcoholometer, and an additional 1*d.* for every degree or part of a degree in excess of 50 degrees.	Spirit imports amounted to 10 per cent. of whole inward trade.
1908	3,235,670 (1,577,760)	332,577	691,190	As above	Spirit imports amounted to 7·76 per cent. of whole inward trade.
1909	2,950,111 (1,365,150)	308,770	639,503	From 15th January, 1909, 5*s.* the imperial gallon, not exceeding 50 degrees by Tralles' Alcoholometer, and for every degree or part of a degree in excess of such strength an additional duty of 2½*d.* per imperial gallon. For every degree below such strength a reduction of 1½*d.* per imperial gallon. Minimum duty 4*s.* per imperial gallon.	Value of spirit imports amounted to 6·22 per cent. of whole inward trade, including specie.
1910	4,748,139 (1,973,910)	456,485	999,823	As above	Value of spirit imports amounted to 7·79 per cent. of the whole inward trade, including specie.
1911	4,835,363 (1,839,960)	440,818	975,557	As above	Value of spirit imports amounted to 7·76 per cent. of whole inward trade, including specie.

* Imports of spirits at 100° Tralles shown in brackets.

APPENDIX II.

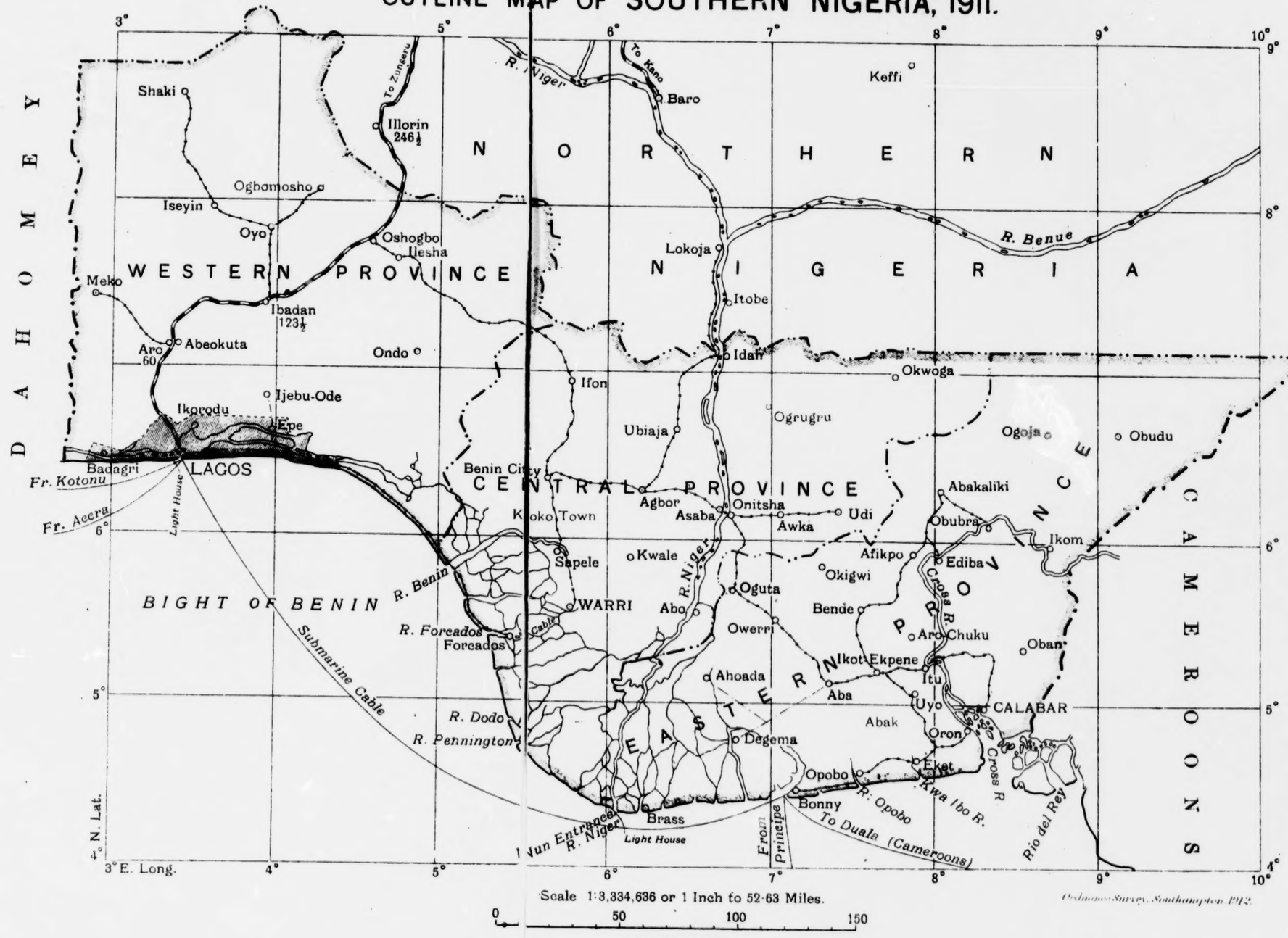
WORK CONDUCTED AT THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE DURING THE YEAR 1911 FOR THE COLONY OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

Reports on the following subjects were furnished to the Government of Southern Nigeria from the Imperial Institute during 1911 as the result of investigations conducted in the Scientific and Technical Department, supplemented when necessary by reference to commercial experts.

Cotton.

Two samples of cotton from Oshogbo and Ibadan, received through the British Cotton Growing Association, were of good quality but irregular in length. They were valued at 8·47*d.* and 8·47*d.* to 8·52*d.* per lb. respec-

OUTLINE MAP OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA, 1911.



REFERENCE

Railway constructed .....
Telegraph ,, ...
,, under construction .....
Headquarters of Administrative Districts .....
Portion of Southern Nigeria known as the Colony .....

tively, with "middling" American at 8·37*d.* per lb. With continued selection of seed from year to year it is probable that the length of staple of these two Southern Nigeria cottons will gradually become more even.

Rubber.

A sample of ceara rubber, prepared by the Lewa method and afterwards smoked, consisted of cakes formed of aggregated balls. The rubber was only of fair quality on account of its deficiency in strength, and was valued at 4*s.* to 4*s.* 6*d.* per lb. in London with fine hard Para at 6*s.* 11*d.* per lb.

A sample of *Funtumia elastica* rubber in biscuit form was of inferior quality on account of its unsatisfactory physical properties, probably owing to defective methods of preparation. Specimens of the same rubber in the form of small lumps, which were forwarded at the same time, were of much better quality, and were valued at 3*s.* per lb. in London, with fine hard Para at 4*s.* 1*d.* per lb.

Three samples of the rubber of *Ficus elastica* prepared by different methods were submitted for examination. One sample had coagulated with carbonate of potash and dried in the smoke of burning palm-kernels, whilst the other two were coagulated without potash, one being dried in the smoke of burning palm-kernels and the other over a fire of green wood. The last two samples were of very good quality, and were valued at from 3*s.* 4*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.* per lb. in London, with fine hard Para at 4*s.* 1*d.* per lb.; the rubber coagulated with potash was weaker and less satisfactory in composition than the other specimens and was valued at a slightly lower price, viz., 3*s.* 4*d.* per lb.

Palm Oil.

Nine representative samples of palm oil from the Eastern Province were examined in order to determine to which of the commercial classes of palm oil they belonged. Three of the samples were found to be "soft" oils, four were "hard" oils, and two were "mixed" oils, *i.e.*, intermediate between the "soft" and "hard" oils. A report was also furnished as to the yields of glycerine obtainable from the oils.

Tanning Materials.

A sample of the bark of *Anogeissus leiocarpus* contained only 17·1 per cent. of tannin and yielded a yellowish-brown leather of stiff and somewhat harsh texture. The percentage of tannin is too low for the bark to be profitably exported to Europe, but it might be used as a tanning material or for the preparation of a tanning extract in Southern Nigeria.

Four samples of mangrove bark, named "Akoriko," "Egba," "Ogunda," and "Ikate," contained low percentages of tannin, the highest yield being only 16·8 per cent. The barks could not be profitably exported to Europe under present conditions, but two of them, "Egba" and "Ogunda," furnished leather of good colour and texture and could be used locally in the Colony for tanning purposes or for the manufacture of tanning extracts.

Dyestuffs.

Herbarium specimens of the "Osun" tree were identified at Kew as *Pterocarpus Osun*, Craib.

Minerals.

The examination of specimens collected by the Mineral Surveyors was continued during the year. Reports on the results of the work of the Mineral Survey during 1907–08 and 1908–09 were published as No. 76 [Cd. 5517] and No. 81 [Cd. 5901] of the Miscellaneous Series of Colonial Reports.

Other minerals examined and reported on included 30 specimens of borings from wells sunk in the course of a search for petroleum in the Colony, mineral water and sand from a spring near Idah, and quartz and sandstone from the Oban and Obubra Districts.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
708	Uganda	1910–1911
709	Straits Settlements...	1910
710	Basutoland	1910–1911
711	Leeward Islands	,,
712	St. Vincent	,,
713	St. Lucia	1910
714	St. Helena	1911
715	Weihaiwei	,,
716	Ceylon	1910–1911
717	Gibraltar	1911
718	Gambia	,,
719	Ashanti	,,
720	Falkland Islands	,,
721	Seychelles	,,
722	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast...	,,
723	Hong Kong...	,,
724	Sierra Leone	,,
725	Gold Coast	,,
726	Turks and Caicos Islands...	,,
727	Fiji	,,
728	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1911–1912
729	Basutoland	,,
730	Colonial Survey Committee	,,
731	Malta	,,
732	Nyasaland	1911–1912
733	British Honduras	1911
734	Gilbert and Ellice Islands...	1910

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1906–7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies...	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 782.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

REPORT FOR 1912.

(For Report for 1911, see No. 735.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
January, 1914.

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No. 782.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

(For Report for 1911, see No. 735.)

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Lagos, Southern Nigeria,
23rd October, 1913.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book for the Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria for the year 1912, together with a report upon it by the Acting Colonial Secretary, Mr. F. S. James, C.M.G.

2. I arrived in Southern Nigeria myself and assumed the administration on October 3rd, proceeding to Northern Nigeria for the same purpose on the day following. The Railways of Northern and Southern Nigeria were amalgamated on my arrival under Mr. Eaglesome, C.M.G. (who was appointed Director of Railways and Works for Nigeria) and preparations were made for the amalgamation of the Marine and Customs in the Estimates of the following year. These Departments were actually amalgamated on 1st January, 1913, and the public debt of both Administrations was at the same time unified. These steps were taken in anticipation of the complete amalgamation of the two Governments, for the carrying out of which you had instructed me to submit proposals to you.

3. The report that I have now the honour to transmit contains a record of substantial material progress due to the energy and ability of my predecessor, while the last sentence indicates an even more satisfactory advance in the relations between the Government and the population of the Central Province. Since I was myself so short a time in the country during 1912 I do not propose to do more in this despatch than to invite your attention to a few salient figures indicative of the progress made in various directions.

4. The population of Southern Nigeria is estimated at about 7¾ millions natives and 1,840 Europeans, of whom 1,080 are non-officials and 760 officials. There were 26 deaths among the former and 9 among the latter during the year (32 and 57 invalidings respectively).

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5. The trade (exports and imports) of Nigeria by Southern Nigeria ports, exclusive of specie and of Government imports, amounted to £11,239,000. The revenue of Southern Nigeria exceeded all previous years and stood at £2,235,412, to which the Customs contributed £1,569,290. Of this latter sum 75 per cent. consisted of duties on spirits and tobacco of foreign origin and only 9 per cent. on cottons. The Reserve Funds showed on December 31st at £1,132,540, and the Debt at £8,267,565. Of the large increase in the imports 40 per cent. was in respect of cotton goods, and there was no increase in spirits. The exports suffered owing to a bad rainfall, but the great increase in the price of palm kernels on the European markets (double the price of 15 or 20 years ago) added to the prosperity of the country. The staple exports from Northern Nigeria, tin ore, skins, shea and ground nuts, and feathers, showed very large increases, as did cotton in both countries.

6. The examination of the coalfield near Udi was steadily undertaken, and drills for boring were ordered with a view to ascertaining whether there were any coal measures within a 25 mile radius of Onitsha, on the Niger. The Government Schools showed an average attendance of 3,984 and the Assisted Schools of 11,732, viz., 15,716 in all, an increase of 1,744 over 1911, and it is estimated that there are some 30,000 pupils in other schools.

7. Large sums were spent on sanitation, especially at Lagos, and great progress was made. The Postal and Savings Bank Departments showed large increases, while the revenue from telegraphs increased by 35 per cent. There were 2,144 pole miles of telegraphs in Southern Nigeria, a total of 4,328 in Nigeria, with 5,167 wire miles (8,700 in Nigeria) and 138 offices. The Railway revenue reached £394,919, the working expenses being £236,280, exclusive of interest on capital cost. The Public Works Department carried out a very extensive programme and much work was done by the Marine Department in clearing and opening up waterways, especially in freeing the Niger from snags.

8. The Colony had to regret the departure during the year of Sir W. Egerton, who had been Governor for eight years, and during whose tenure of office such great strides in commercial development have been made and the revenue more than doubled.

I have, &c.,

F. D. LUGARD,

Governor.

The Right Honourable,
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
&c., &c., &c.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1912.

FINANCIAL.

The total actual revenue collected during the year amounted to £2,235,412. This figure is the largest on record, exceeding the anticipated income as finally revised by the sum of £36,489, and showing an increase of £279,236 over the revenue for the year 1911. The details are as follows:—

Head of Revenue.	1912.	1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs Duties...	1,569,290	1,439,386	129,904	—
Harbour and Lighting Dues ...	2,340	2,423	—	83
Licences, &c.	20,172	19,911	261	—
Fees of Court, &c.	103,460	93,940	9,520	—
Postal Revenue...	16,675	14,196	2,479	—
Rent of Government Properties	2,962	2,470	492	—
Interest	126,061	53,178	72,883	—
Miscellaneous	6,884	22,532	—	15,648
Railway and Tramway ...	387,311	307,912	79,399	—
Total	2,235,155	1,955,948	294,938	15,731
Land Sales	257	228	29	—
Total	2,235,412	1,956,176	294,967	15,731
Loan Expenditure Adjustments	—	449,691	—	449,691
	2,235,412	2,405,867	294,967	465,422

The percentage of contribution of main revenue heads to total revenue was as follows:—

	1912.	1911.
Customs Duties	70·2	73·6
Railway	17·3	15·8
Fees of Court, &c.	4·6	4·8
Licences, &c.	0·9	1·0
Postal	0·7	0·7

An analysis of Customs revenue gives the following result:—

	1912.	1911.
	£	£
Specific Duties	1,379,484	1,275,601
Ad valorem Duties	189,806	163,785
	1,569,290	1,439,386

The principal articles yielding duty were:—

—	Per cent. to total Customs Duties.	1912.	1911.
		£	£
Spirits	64·6	1,013,808	975,557
Cotton Goods...	9·1	143,024	117,007
Tobacco	10·6	166,144	141,155

The following figures show total revenue and expenditure for the past five years:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1908	1,387,975	1,357,763
1909	1,361,891	1,648,681
1910	1,933,235	1,592,282
1911	1,956,176	1,717,259
1912	2,235,412	2,110,498

Exclusive of the public debt, the assets of the Colony exceeded the liabilities on 31st December, 1912, by £1,132,540, compared with a balance in 1911 of £1,007,625.

The balance of calls on the 1911 loan of £5,000,000 were received during the year, bringing the total receipts in respect of this loan to £4,875,035. From this sum £1,893,246 has been utilised for the services of the redemption of the outstanding 4 per cent. debentures of the 1908 loan, leaving £2,981,789 available for expenditure, of which sum £1,294,570 had been expended on 31st December, 1912. The total public debt of the Colony now amounts to £8,267,565.

The total expenditure on all heads of service, exclusive of expenditure from loan funds on certain specific undertakings, amounted to £2,110,498, of which the following are the details:—

Head of Expenditure.	1911.	1912.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Charge on Account of Public Debt	228,042	343,440	115,398	—
Pensions and Gratuities	16,438	19,841	3,403	—
Governor's Office	9,127	7,638	—	1,489
Colonial Secretariat	16,499	16,352	—	147
Political and Administrative ...	83,239	85,659	2,420	—
Judicial	13,876	15,015	1,139	—
Legal	3,710	4,435	725	—
Treasury	15,792	15,688	—	104
Customs	38,810	43,711	4,901	—
Postal	16,506	17,465	959	—
Telegraphs...	27,683	31,719	4,036	—
Audit...	8,641	9,163	522	—
Printing	11,298	11,573	275	—
West African Frontier Force ...	91,803	115,967	24,164	—
Volunteer Force	2,084	1,535	—	549
Marine	120,141	121,267	1,126	—
Civil Police	47,959	50,677	2,718	—
Prisons	45,636	51,503	5,867	—

Head of Expenditure.	1911.	1912.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Forestry	15,046	18,453	3,407	—
Agriculture	10,443	12,505	2,062	—
Medical...	67,805	74,127	6,322	—
Medical Research	690	1,434	744	—
Laboratory...	694	682	—	12
Sanitary	5,732	8,384	2,652	—
Native Affairs	22,708	22,808	100	—
Education	27,159	35,999	8,840	—
Surveys	21,636	23,960	2,324	—
Mineral Survey	2,145	1,650	—	495
Lands	1,257	1,691	434	—
Rent	2,247	2,437	190	—
Charitable	481	754	273	—
Transport	68,020	73,171	5,151	—
Motor Transport	5,882	3,061	—	2,821
Contribution to Northern Nigeria	70,000	70,000	—	—
Miscellaneous Services	55,880	40,505	—	15,375
Public Works Department ...	49,979	53,458	3,479	—
Roads Construction	179	—	—	179
Works and Buildings Annually Recurrent.	31,318	35,578	4,260	—
Roads and Bridges Annually Recurrent.	13,788	12,301	—	1,487
Railway	175,229	239,943	64,714	—
Tramway	3,796	3,628	—	168
Carter and Denton Bridges ...	1,998	1,729	—	269
Works and Buildings Extraordinary.	106,412	138,544	32,132	—
Roads and Bridges Extraordinary	32,962	35,627	2,665	—
Telegraphs Extraordinary ...	10,119	12,836	2,717	—
Marine Extraordinary	66,882	59,348	—	7,534
Railway Capital Works	49,488	163,237	113,749	—
	1,717,259	2,110,498	423,868	30,629

TRADE.

Gross Imports and Exports (Specie excluded).

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1910	5,122,000	5,258,000	10,380,000
1911	5,234,000	5,354,000	10,588,000
1912	5,949,000	5,773,000	11,722,000

Specie is *not* included in the above totals, but the figures embrace goods and produce passing through Southern Nigeria ports to or from Northern Nigeria, and also Government importations. They do not, however, include goods and produce in transit to or from foreign colonies.

Excluding Government importations from the above figures, the following represent the purely commercial imports and exports (Northern and Southern Nigeria together) for each of the last three years, specie excluded:—

Commercial Imports and Exports (Specie excluded).

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1910	4,579,000	5,257,000	9,836,000
1911	4,726,000	5,353,000	10,079,000
1912	5,467,000	5,772,000	11,239,000

In passing, it is of interest to note the average annual value of Nigerian commercial imports and exports for the three years 1906-1908 was £6,500,000 only, as compared with £10,400,000 for the years 1910-1912.

It is impossible to state the exact total value of commercial imports and exports to or from Northern Nigeria included in the above figures, as an account is kept only of the merchandise passing in or out of the sister protectorate at Idah on the Niger River. In addition to such river-borne imports and exports, appreciable quantities of goods find their way into Northern Nigeria overland *viâ* Lagos. Taking these into account, it may be assumed that in the year under review the total commercial imports and exports of Northern Nigeria would approximate one million sterling.

Dealing with the trade of Nigeria as a whole, it will be observed from the returns quoted that further marked progress has been made in the commercial development of this rich country. Imports for the year 1912 (excluding specie) were £715,000, or 14 per cent. in excess of the previous year, which was the best on record, and exports showed an advance of £419,000, equal to 8 per cent. more than 1911.

Import figures, unless coupled with reliable information as to stocks held by the merchants at the beginning and end of a given year, are apt to be misleading, as they do not necessarily represent actual consumption. It is, however, gratifying to note from the returns that 40 per cent. of the total value of increased inward shipments during 1912 is represented by cotton goods, whilst there is no increase in imports of spirits.

The following table shows the exports of the principal Southern Nigerian products for each of the last three years:—

— —	1912.	1911.	1910.
Palm kernels, tons	185,000	176,000	173,000
Palm oil, tons	77,000	79,000	77,000
Cocoa, lbs.	7,594,000	9,859,000	6,567,000
Rubber, lbs.	1,579,000	2,164,000	2,634,000
Cotton (lint), lbs.	4,373,000	2,238,000	2,478,000

It will be observed that, whilst palm oil, rubber, and cocoa show decreased exports, palm kernels and cotton were shipped in larger quantities than during the previous year. With regard to the cotton crop, it is to be noted that the yield was the largest since 1909, and that the 1912 output was the second best on record. Cocoa, and probably rubber also, suffered from short rainfall, which was the smallest for many years. It is difficult to satisfactorily account for the falling away by 2,000 tons of palm oil. Palm kernels, it will be seen, were, on the other hand, 8,000 tons in excess of the previous year. Taking the total tonnage and value of palm produce (oil and kernels together), the following are the comparative figures for the last three years:—

Exports of Palm Produce.

	Tons.	£
1910	250,000	4,193,000
1911	256,000	4,271,000
1912	262,000	4,452,000

In addition to the palm oil and kernels exported during 1912, it is especially interesting to note that, owing to the establishment of crushing mills on the spot, the first shipments of kernel oil and cattle cake were made from Southern Nigeria, 500 tons of kernel oil and 635 tons of cake being exported in 1912.

Prices for the principal commodity in the export list, *i.e.*, palm kernels, ruled high in Europe during the year under review, the average of £19 15*s.* per ton being the best on record. Even this high average has, however, been considerably exceeded since the end of 1912, and during the first half of the current year (1913) the average rate in Liverpool has been over £22, or say double what it was 15 to 20 years ago. As the total value of palm kernels exported during 1912 was 2¾ millions sterling, or, say, practically 50 per cent. of the total Nigerian exports, these enhanced and apparently stable values have, needless to say, a very marked bearing upon the prosperity of the Colony and Protectorate.

The following table shows the average annual fluctuation in the values of Southern Nigerian staple produce during the last four years:—

—	1912.	1911.	1910.	1909.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Palm kernels, per ton	19 15 0	18 6 0	19 0 0	15 6 6
Palm oil, per ton	29 18 0	31 15 0	33 5 0	26 10 0
Cocoa, per cwt.	2 10 6	2 8 0	2 5 0	2 5 0
Rubber, "Lagos Lump," per lb.	0 2 4	0 2 2	0 3 6	0 2 2
Cotton, Mid. American, per lb.	6·46*d.*	7·03*d.*	7·87*d.*	5·50*d.*

With regard to the exports of products which are included in the general returns, but which really come entirely or mainly from Northern Nigeria, it is most encouraging to note the following increases in such exports during the year 1912:—

	£	
Tin ore	155,000	more than 1911
Skins and hides	31,000	do.
Shea nuts	11,000	do.
Ostrich feathers	10,000	do.
Ground nuts	8,000	do.

The total value of these five products exported in 1912 was £486,000, as compared with £271,000 only during 1911.

FORESTRY.

Examination of Forests.

The Conservator and his assistants made several tours through the Western Province, during the course of which the various licensed timber areas and reserves were visited, and the work of the native staff inspected. Owing to the increase of plantation work, however, it has not been possible to devote as much time to the inspection and exploration of new areas as is desirable in this province.

Early in the year, a tour was made through the Effon and Western Ekiti countries, where some valuable hill forests containing mahogany, cedar (*Pseudocedrela*) and Iroko are still in existence. They are, however, rapidly being cut down by the native farmers, a practice that is certain to jeopardise the future water supply of the country, as some of the main rivers of both the Western and Central Provinces take their rise in those forests. The damage done to the Effon hill forests since a previous visit to them in 1910 was very noticeable, and the same may be remarked of the forests in the Ilesha district.

In the Central Province a large number of licensed timber areas were inspected by various forest officers and the work of the native contractors checked and a stop put to careless felling and the use of the stems of valuable young trees for rollers, a practice that was found to exist in some of the areas. In addition to this, numerous communal rubber plantations were examined and arrangements made for extending them, whilst reserves were also visited with a view to checking the wasteful clearing of forests for farming purposes.

Mr. Hitchens also visited the belts of fringing forests that are found along streams in the Onitsha, Awka, Udi, and Idah Districts. They were found to contain mahogany (*khaya senegalensis*) and Iroko in fair quantities. These areas have been dealt with more fully in other reports and it is not necessary to make any further reference to them here.

During the year extensive tours were made by the Conservator of Forests, Dr. Unwin, through most of the important wooded areas of the Eastern Province.

During May and June a visit was made by the Conservator of Forests to the Oban Reserve and thence to Insofan, Ikom, and

Ogoja. From the latter place he proceeded to Obudu whence he returned to the Cross River through the mountainous tract of country (Boki) between that station and Ikom.

Protection of Forests.

The protection afforded to certain species of trees in licensed timber areas was more or less maintained during the year and, with the exception of the Oloke-Meji Reserve, where a fire damaged some 2½ acres of teak plantation, all the reserves were efficiently protected. This is the only class of forest where, owing to the prohibition of farming, any real protection is afforded to plant growth; unfortunately, as mentioned above, there is but little progress to report in the acquisition of such reserves.

Regeneration of Forests.

(a) *Natural Regeneration.*

Owing to the exceptionally dry year experienced in the Western Province, natural regeneration is said to have suffered somewhat in that part of the Protectorate.

Departmentally, however, much more was attempted in the planting line during 1912 than has ever been undertaken before.

(b) *Artificial Regeneration.*

An area amounting to 406 acres was cleared of growth and 241½ acres of it was actually planted up with Indian teak and other trees of economic value. Of this, 219½ acres of plantation were still surviving at the end of the year. The balance is largely accounted for by the failure of 15 acres at Ibadan from drought and 2½ acres of teak at Oloke-Meji from fire. The total cost of these operations amounted to £1,252.

From the Central Province the Conservator of Forests reports that 71,786 seedlings of mahogany and other timber trees were planted out by licensees in licensed timber areas.

In the Eastern Province 450 mahogany seedlings were planted out by the African Association in licensed timber areas. Timber exploitation is in its infancy in that province, hence the small results reported.

Forest Exploitation.

(a) *Major Produce.*

Western Province.

The Conservator of Forests reports that in the Western Province 12 licensed timber areas were worked during the year and that 18 other licences were granted and completed before the close of that period. Five new applications were received, of which two were provisionally granted and two were refused by the native owners whilst the remaining one is still being dealt with.

Revenue and royalties.—The figures for the year as compared with those of 1911 were as follows:—

——	1911.			1912.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
(a) Fees on export timber	1,614	4	0	3,135	4	0	1,521	0	0	—		
(b) Royalties (payable to natives).	381	0	0	657	10	0	276	10	0	—		
(c) Fees on local timber	183	0	0	665	17	0	482	13	0	—		
(d) Royalties (payable to natives).	247	8	0	444	13	0	197	5	0	—		
(e) Timber sales from reserves.	69	19	4	48	8	5	—			21	10	11
Total	2,495	15	4	4,951	12	5	2,477	8	0	21	10	11

The total revenue for the year, exclusive of royalties, was thus £3,849 9*s.* 5*d.*, whilst the royalties amounted to £1,108 3*s.*, making a total for both of £4,951 12*s.* 5*d.*

The net increase for 1912 amounted to £2,455 17*s.* 1*d.*, which was mainly due to the enhanced prices for timber in home markets and a consequent increase in the number of areas exploited.

A satisfactory increase is also shown in the receipts from timber cut for local sales, but this is probably due to more effective supervision by the forest staff.

Central Province.

In the Central Province 45 licensed areas were worked during the year as against 40 in 1911, whilst, mainly owing to the scarcity of labour, 32 areas, including 7 abandoned ones, remained unexploited.

The revenue derived from timber during this and the previous year was as follows:—

——	1911.			1912.			Difference.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Revenue on timber for export ...	10,668	2	0	11,047	11	0	379	9	0
Revenue on timber, local sale ...	158	6	0	150	13	6	7	12	6
Royalties paid to chiefs and villages	2,452	18	0	2,470	14	6	17	16	6
Half royalties paid to forestry reservation fund.	48	10	0	76	1	0	27	11	0
Total	13,327	16	0	13,745	0	0	417	4	0

The net increase for 1912 thus amounted to £417 4*s.*

Export of Timber for the whole of Southern Nigeria during 1911-1912.

The statistics as to the export of major produce (timber) during the years 1911 and 1912 for the whole of Southern Nigeria are given below.

—		1911.		1912.	
			£		£
Mahogany	logs	13,675	55,575	15,565	78,007
Ebony	tons	75	206	37	103
Camwood	cwts.	3	2	277	46

The total values of the export trade in such produce for 1911 and 1912 are thus £55,783 and £78,156 respectively.

(b) *Minor Produce.*

TAPPING IN THE IBADAN AND MAMU RESERVES.

Operations were started in the Ibadan Native Reserves and the Government Mamu Reserves on the 22nd June and were continued until November. The *Funtumia* trees were tapped on the half herring bone system up to a height of 20 feet and half way round the tree, mostly with a slightly improved type of native knife. Owing to the small staff available it was not possible to tap all the trees even once, let alone a second and third time, during the season as was originally contemplated. Coagulation was effected by boiling and the rubber turned out was of most excellent quality.

The total amount of wet rubber yielded by the three reserves was:—

	lbs.
Mamu Government Reserves	2,575
The Ibadan Native State Reserves ...	2,708
Total	5,283 lbs.

The Conservator of Forests reports that the loss of weight (33·73 per cent.) in drying accounted for 1,782 lbs., thus reducing the ultimate amount to 3,501 lbs. of dry rubber. Of this 3,435 lbs. was 1st quality, whilst there were 66 lbs. of scrap.

The rubber was sold locally in January of this year, so that the receipts do not figure in the 1912 accounts, but it may be as well to give the results of the sale here. They are:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
3,435 lbs. 1st quality sold at 3*s.* 10*d.* per lb. ...	658	7	0
66 ,, scrap	4	19	0
Total	£663	6	0

The amounts have been credited as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
To the Ibadan Native State approximately, 53 per cent.	351	6	6
To Government, 47 per cent.	312	0	0
Total	£663	6	6

The total revenue and royalties derived from minor produce during the year was as follows:—

	1912. £	s.	d.
Fees on rubber licences	1,316	5	0
Royalties on rubber licences	1,310	15	0
Rubber sales from reserves	166	6	9
Licences for collecting minor produce in reserve	127	4	0
Total	£2,920	10	9

In the Oshun River Reserve 242 licences were issued for the collection of minor produce, chiefly palm nuts.

Central Province.

The total number of rubber licences issued during the year was 1,008, as against 1,756 in 1911; of the former 766 licences were issued to natives and the balance, viz., 242, to foreigners. The total royalties and revenue from these licences amounted to £625, which sum was equally divided between the two.

The statement below gives the details of the rubber licences issued.

District.	No. of licences issued to natives.	No. of licences issued to foreigners.	Total.	Revenue. £	s.	d.	Royalties to chiefs and villages. £	s.	d.
Benin City ...	493	106	599	176	5	0	176	5	0
Ifon	237	117	354	117	15	0	117	15	0
Ishan	33	15	48	15	15	0	15	15	0
Okwoga	—	4	4	2	0	0	2	0	0
Asaba	3	—	3	0	15	0	0	15	0
Total ...	766	242	1,008	312	10	0	312	10	0

Communal Rubber Plantations.—Tapping in the native communal plantations began on the 13th of May and was carried on to the end of October.

The rubber was sold locally in March of this year and realised as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
2,988 lbs. of good rubber at 3*s.* 4*d.* per lb. ...	498	0	0
43 lbs of tackey rubber at 2*s.* 10*d.* per lb	6	1	10
Total	£504	1	10

Of this sum two-thirds, or £336 14*s.* 6*d.*, is payable to the native communities and chiefs.

The expenses to Government, apart from the cost of the supervision, harvesting, and preparation undertaken by the native forest staff, amounted to £50 5*s.* 8*d.*

Eastern Province.

There is but little to report under this head from the Eastern Province. The number of rubber licences issued was 64, as against 63 in 1911. Other products exported were:—

	1912.	1911.
Piassava fibre	324·82 tons.	199·31 tons.
Ivory	23 cwts.	——

The increase recorded under piassava is satisfactory and shows that more attention is being paid to this product, for the preparation of which an almost unlimited supply of the raw material is available in the fresh-water swamps of the country.

Collection of Wild Products.

Western Province.

The herbarium at Oloke-Meji was not added to during the year. Some logs of teak from trees about 20 years old, cut in Ebute-Metta Gardens, were shipped to England for testing, &c., and report. The latter has not yet been received.

Consignments of logs of four species of timber trees, viz.: the Emido (*Mimusops multinervis*), Apa (*Afzelia africana*), Afara (*Terminalia superba*) and Arere (*Triplochiton johnsonii*), were sent to the Public Works and Railway Departments for trial and report.

The former reported favourably on the Apa and Arere logs and stated that there was a good demand for the latter. This wood, however, is only suitable for interior fittings and furniture and should not be exposed to the weather. The Apa is an excellent all round durable wood.

Central Province.

From the Central Province several herbarium specimens of plants were sent to Kew for identification. This was determined in the majority of cases.

Eastern Province.

Specimens of the fruit of the tallow tree and flowering specimens of the so-called bitter kola (*Garcinia conrauana*), were sent to the Imperial Institute and Kew respectively.

The revenue and expenditure for the whole Colony and Protectorate and for the three provinces was as follows:—

Revenue and Expenditure.

	£
Western Province—	
Revenue	4,058
Expenditure	14,315
Deficit	10,257

Central Province—	
Revenue	11,709
Expenditure	2,827
Surplus	8,882
Eastern Province—	
Revenue	423
Expenditure	1,311
Deficit	888

Grand Total for Colony and Protectorate:—

1912.

	£
Revenue	17,891*
Expenditure	18,453
Deficit	£562

This deficit is mainly due to the loss of revenue brought about by a very much smaller number of rubber licences being taken out in the Western Province during the year than in 1911.

If the £312 realised on the sale of rubber prepared from the Government Mamu Plantations in 1912, but actually sold in January, 1913, is added to the revenue of the former year the deficit of £562 is reduced to £250.

Ibadan Native State.

On the 1st January, 1912, the Forestry Department took over charge of the Ibadan Native State Forest Reserves and of the whole of the Ibadan forest administration and staff.

Rubber Tapping.—The rubber trees in the Ibadan Native State Reserves near Mamu were tapped during the year and produced 14,388 biscuits, weighing, when wet, 2,708 lbs. This sold for £351 6*s.* 6*d.*, but as it was not sold until after the end of the year the amount does not appear in this year's accounts. The rubber tapping was carried out in conjunction with that in the Government Reserve at Mamu, details of which are given in another portion of this report.

The financial results are encouraging but there is as yet no net profit. The following statement shows how matters stand:—

Revenue.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Timber fees	464	9	0
Rubber licences	116	9	0
	£580	18	0

* This includes £1,701 received for rubber licences not included under provincial details above.

Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
European supervision	150	0	0
Native staff and other charges ...	998	10	8
	£1,148	10	8

showing a deficit of £567 12*s.* 8*d.* These figures do not include the cost of the Ibadan fuel plantation, provision for which is separately made in the Estimates.

AGRICULTURE.

No records are available regarding the area of land cultivated; but it must be considerable, for the diet of the natives is mainly of a vegetable nature, and very few vegetable products are imported.

Excluding products of the oil palm, which is not systematically cultivated, the principal crops grown for export are cocoa, cotton, maize, ground-nuts, and benniseed. Para rubber is being extensively cultivated in several districts.

Cocoa.

From the figures given below it will be seen that, although the exports of cocoa were lower than those of the year 1911, they are considerably above those of the preceding three years. The falling off in the cocoa crop was due to abnormally small rainfall.

Year.	Lbs.	Value. £
1908	3,060,609	50,587
1909	5,019,150	71,916
1910	6,567,181	101,150
1911	9,858,774	164,664
1912	7,953,711	130,542
Total for 5 years ...	32,459,425	518,859
Average for 5 years	6,491,885	103,772

39,675 cocoa plants and over 12,000 cocoa seeds were distributed by the Department of Agriculture.

Cotton.

The quantity of cotton lint exported was 33 per cent. higher than the average exports of this staple during the last five years. The exports of cotton lint and cotton seed since 1908 are given below:—

Year.	Cotton Lint.		Cotton Seed.	
	Cwts.	Value. £	Tons.	Value. £
1908	20,485	53,316	2,496	6,059
1909	44,937	103,270	4,802	11,405
1910	22,128	78,478	2,177	5,472
1911	19,984	66,935	1,908	4,577
1912	39,043	102,932	4,058	10,030
Total for 5 years	146,577	404,931	15,441	37,543
Average for 5 years ...	29,315	80,986	3,088	7,509

264 tons of seed were distributed to farmers for planting purposes.

Maize.

The quality of maize exported was considerably in advance of that exported during the two previous years. This improvement was due to the higher prices offered locally for this product.

Year.	Quantity. cwts.	Value. £
1908	310,580	51,695
1909	203,260	34,335
1910	101,917	16,689
1911	17,337	3,128
1912	157,979	28,713
Total for 5 years ...	791,073	134,560
Average for 5 years...	158,215	26,912

Oil Seeds.

The value of the exports of ground-nuts and benniseed were £18,930 and £2,972 respectively, as compared with that of £10,377 and £3,742 in 1911.

Experimental Tapping of Para Rubber Trees.

Para rubber trees are experimentally tapped at Ebute-Metta and Sapele, and the yields obtained are given below:—

Place.	Age of trees.	Average yield of dry rubber per tree. lb.	ozs.
Ebute-Metta	20 ...	7	4·75
Sapele. Section I ...	6 ...	1	6·68
II ...	6 ...	1	11·87
III ...	6 ...	1	4·87

The Department of Agriculture distributed 14,796 plants and 151,420 seeds of this species.

SHIPPING.

The following statement shows the steamers and sailing ships entered and cleared compared with the previous year.

Flag.	Entered.				Cleared.			
	1912.		1911.		1912.		1911.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
STEAM :—								
British ...	312	470,196	349	476,175	307	455,415	325	439,663
German ...	204	352,807	197	339,507	214	363,941	196	340,559
French ...	17	6,035	3	6,923	21	7,423	3	6,923
Dutch ...	—	—	2	114	—	—	2	114
SAIL :—								
Norwegian ...	1	548	1*	690	1	548	—	—
Total ...	534	829,586	552	823,409	543	827,327	526	787,259

* This ship was dismantled at Forcados and is now being used as a hulk.

The following statement shows the value of the trade carried by British and foreign vessels during the year compared with the preceding year.

—					Transit Trade.			
	1912.		1911.		1912.		1911.	
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Entered	5,588,306	842,295	4,872,012	808,969	139,364	103,029	168,572	38,504
Cleared	4,558,448	1,531,258	3,835,003	1,556,464	208,323	211,003	243,635	237,768
Total ...	10,146,754	2,373,553	8,707,015	2,365,433	347,687	314,032	412,207	276,272

The percentage of trade carried by foreign vessels during the four years 1909–1912 was 20·17, 21·2, 21·4 and 18·9 respectively.

The total increase in value of Southern Nigeria trade for 1912 amounted to £1,447,859 (exclusive of transit trade), of which British vessels gained £1,439,739 and foreign vessels gained £8,120. As regards transit trade there was a decrease over 1911 of £26,760, British vessels showing a decrease of £64,520 and foreign vessels an increase of £37,760.

LANDS.

The recognition of the supreme importance of a satisfactory policy toward land administration was emphasised by the decision of the Secretary of State announced in June, 1912, to appoint a committee to enquire into the question of land tenure in certain West African dependencies, including Southern Nigeria.

Many reports have been sent in by District Commissioners, and memoranda explanatory of the existing legislation and general position of land administration in the Colony and Protectorate were prepared. These memoranda and many of the district reports were submitted to the Lands Committee. Evidence was also taken in Lagos from witnesses representative of the various native interests in the Colony, and the original evidence and a report thereon were also forwarded to the Colonial Office.

Two salient points brought out by the various reports are the illegality of unrestricted alienation under the native system, and the inevitable confusion resulting from the uncontrolled application of the forms and tenets of English law.

The fact that the Native Lands Acquisition Ordinance applies to all three provinces has again been brought to the notice of the public by a notification inserted in most of the Gazettes of the past year. Leases under the provisions of the Ordinance are, so far as is possible, being substituted for leases contracted between natives and aliens prior to its enactment. Registration has been refused to deeds executed within the protected States where such deeds have not been submitted to the Government for approval.

The intention of the Government in enforcing the Ordinance is, by imposing a definite disability upon non-natives, to safeguard the interests of the native authorities and to prevent the acquisition of native rights over large areas upon terms too favourable to the grantees.

The question of the Government right to the foreshore on Lagos Island is still *sub judice*, the judgment of the full court in 1911 in favour of the Government having been made the subject of an appeal to the Privy Council.

A claim by a Lagos White Cap Chief to a large area of mainly undeveloped land, on a small portion of which works in connection with the construction of the western mole are being carried out, was brought before the Supreme Court in March. Judgment was given in favour of the claimant. This decision was subsequently upheld in December by the full court, though for somewhat divergent reasons. One of the judges considered that the claimant could have had no standing had the land in question been included in the Cession of 1861. The other two members of the court held that the land was included in the Cession of 1861 but that it was subject to the private rights of the chief's family, which in their opinion were not affected by the treaty of 1861.

The cadastral survey of Lagos has been continued during the year. Its early completion is very desirable in view of the difficulties in locating existing holdings, many of which appear to have diverged from the correct boundaries and in some cases to be supported by inadequate titles. It is also essential that native titles dating from a date prior to the Cession of Lagos should be properly defined and recorded.

The following land titles have been issued during the year:—

——	No. of Deeds.	Area.			Rent.		
		ac.	rds.	pls.	£	*s.*	*d.*
Western Province.							
Government leases	18	3½	0	0	132	0	0
Eastern Province							
Under Native Lands Acquisition Ordinance.	10	25	3	33	78	5	0
Central Province.							
(i) Under Native Lands Acquisition Ordinance.	9	52	0	16	30	12	6
(ii) Government leases	38	49	3	0	254	16	0

Mining.

Under the Mining Regulation Ordinance ten applications were received for general prospecting licences, seventeen for exclusive licences, and eight for mining leases. No exclusive licence or lease was actually issued, a circumstance due in some cases to inability on the part of the applicants to prove genuine prospecting under a general licence at a date prior to that on which their application was made, or else through failure to comply with the Government requirements as to working capital or demarcation. No developments of note occurred in connection with boring for oil.

Company Registration.

Ordinance No. VII., passed in March, provided for the registration of companies incorporated within the Colony and for the filing of certain particulars by others incorporated elsewhere, but carrying on business with the Colony. The Commissioner of Lands was appointed registrar in June. No companies were registered, but twenty-six firms of British or foreign origin filed documents required under section 232 of the Ordinance.

LEGISLATION.

The principal Ordinances passed during the year under review are:—

1. The Collective Punishment Ordinance, to legalise the imposition of fines on towns, villages, and communities and to regulate the procedure for the collection thereof.
2. The Companies Ordinance, for the incorporation, regulation, and winding up of trading companies and other associations.
3. The Peace Preservation Ordinance, to provide for the better preservation of the public peace in those parts of the Protectorate which are not under absolute control.
4. The Unsettled District Ordinance, to enable certain parts of the Protectorate to be declared unsettled districts and for other purposes relating thereto.
5. The Pawnbrokers Ordinance, to regulate the business of pawnbroking.
6. The Liquor (Prohibited Areas) Ordinance, regulating the importation, sale, and manufacture of spirituous liquors in areas to be hereafter defined.
7. The Money-lenders Ordinance, to regulate the business of money-lending.

EDUCATION.

The number of Government schools in the Colony at the end of the year was 59.

The enrolment and average attendance were as follows:—

Province.	Enrolment at the end of the year.			Average Attendance.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Western	914	13	927	639	5	644
Central	2,647	108	2,755	1,891	70	1,961
Eastern	1,947	53	2,000	1,343	36	1,379
Total	5,508	174	5,682	3,873	111	3,984

The total enrolment in Government schools in the preceding year was 5,637.

The assisted schools numbered 90, as against 115 in 1911, thus showing a decrease of 25, consequent upon the withdrawal from Government inspection of village schools which were unable to fulfil the requirements of the code. The subjoined table gives the number of pupils on register and the average attendance in the assisted schools.

Province.	Enrolment at the end of the year.			Average Attendance.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Western	4,724	1,911	6,635	3,515	1,420	4,935
Central	4,366	113	4,479	3,798	90	3,888
Eastern	3,359	953	4,312	2,360	549	2,909
Total	12,449	2,977	15,426	9,673	2,059	11,732

Notwithstanding the large decrease in the number of assisted schools, the enrolment has increased during the year from 14,216 to 15,426, and the average attendance from 11,732 to 13,050, showing a difference of 1,210 and 1,318 respectively.

The total enrolment for the year of both Government and assisted schools was 21,108, (17,957 boys and 3,151 girls) and the total average attendance 15,716 (13,546 boys and 2,170 girls). The corresponding totals for 1912 were 19,853 and 13,952 respectively. In comparison with the returns for 1911, there is an increase of 1,255 in the enrolment and 1,744 in the average attendance. The latter may be regarded as very satisfactory compared with 469 in the preceding year.

In addition to the Government and assisted schools there are in the Colony and Protectorate very many which are entirely controlled and maintained by the various missionary societies, and also a few adventure schools owned by private individuals. Returns are not available as to the exact number attending these schools, but it may be estimated to be about 30,000. The Niger

Mission of the Church Missionary Society, however, have furnished information regarding their educational work during the past year. In the districts of Onitsha, Asaba, Awka, and Owerri there were 41 schools, with an enrolment of 4,643 boys and 587 girls, making a total of 5,230. Of this number 3,800 received purely vernacular education. Belonging to this mission there are also a number of schools in which the teaching is almost entirely in the vernacular. It is estimated that the inclusion of the children attending the latter would bring the total number receiving instruction in all the schools of the C.M.S. Niger Mission to about 10,000.

The number of boys attending King's College, Lagos, increased during the year from 43 to 59, including 4 scholars, 7 exhibitioners and 3 pupils who hold exhibitions under the Hussey Charity scheme. The Principal reports that the standard of work has steadily improved during the year and that very satisfactory progress has been made.

Evening classes were again held this year at King's College. The course extended for some 17 weeks from the 29th July, and the number of teachers who attended was 135. The lectures were given by the members of the King's College staff and the Inspector of Schools. A special class was also held on Saturday mornings, by the Superintending Instructor, for clay-modelling and free-hand and model drawing. Vacation classes on similar lines were held in the Central Province at Onitsha in July, when the schools were closed for the holidays. Eighty-one teachers of both Government and assisted schools assembled from various parts of the province and the lecturers were members of the King's College staff and others of the department. Members of the Medical and Agricultural Departments lectured on hygiene and agricultural science, and a special course of instruction in drawing and woodwork was given by the Superintending Instructor of Schools.

The examinations for teachers' certificates and of pupil teachers were held in the month of December at Lagos, Warri, Onitsha, Bonny, and Calabar. There were 312 candidates (103 teachers and 209 pupil teachers), of whom 34 teachers and 115 pupil teachers were successful.

Clerical entrance examinations for 3rd class clerkships took place in March and September. Out of 275 candidates 87 were successful, showing an increase over the number entered in 1911, which was 159, of whom 54 passed. The clerical promotion examinations for second class clerks were held in January and July. There were 121 candidates and 22 satisfied the examiners. The reports show that in both the entrance and promotion examinations the standard of work presented is gradually, if slowly, improving.

The Cambridge University Local Examinations took place at King's College, Lagos, in December. The candidates numbered 62, of whom 26 obtained a pass, including 6 for the Senior Local Examination, 8 for the Junior and 12 for the Preliminary. Four of those who obtained the senior certificate are entitled to exemption from the whole of Part II. of the Cambridge University Previous Examination, and one of them has also qualified for

exemption from the Matriculation Examination of London University.

Evening classes were commenced in April at King's College for the apprentices engaged in the workshops of the Marine and Public Works Departments. The classes were held twice a week for two hours, and instruction was given by the Science Master at King's College and the Superintending Instructor of Schools in practical mathematics, drawing, and elementary mechanics. The number enrolled was 102, but the average attendance did not exceed 50, owing probably to the fact that some of the apprentices had not a sufficient knowledge of English and ceased to attend the classes on that account.

The 23rd Annual Exhibition of School Work in the Western Province and the Competition for the Lady Denton Memorial Needlework Prizes took place on the 30th March. The number of exhibits was 1,448, an excess of 61 over the preceding year, and the total sum awarded in prizes amounted to £80. A similar exhibition open to all schools in the Central Province was held at Onitsha in December.

The amount of fees collected in Government schools during the year is returned as £1,289 and voluntary contributions amounted to £1,620, which sums, in addition to a miscellaneous revenue of £194, give a total revenue of £3,103, a slight decrease on the previous year, mainly due to a falling off in school fees in the Eastern Province.

The total expenditure under the education estimates amounted to £35,999, being an increase of £8,840 over that of 1911. This is attributable to an amount of £15,081 paid during the year in respect of grants to assisted schools, of which the sum of £7,866 returned under the Western Province represents two payments of grants for the years 1911 and 1912, the former not having been paid during the year in which they were earned. Included in this amount also is a sum of £200 towards the expenses of the new buildings of the C.M.S. Grammar School at Abeokuta and Wesleyan Girls' High School at Lagos. These schools are not "assisted schools," but the grants were made under the provision of section 24 of the Education Ordinance, which empowers the Governor to make a direct grant to any school.

POLICE.

The authorised establishment on the 31st December, 1912, was 1,469, an increase of 81 as compared with the previous year, and the actual strength was 1,454.

The authorised establishment was:—

European staff	18
Native staff	21
Rank and file	1,430
Total	1,469

The allocation of the actual strength was as follows:—

Western Province	643
Central Province	343
Eastern Province	468
Total	1,454

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of persons apprehended or summoned before all the courts was 14,783, dealt with as under:—

Discharged for want of prosecution ...	702
Discharged on merit	1,942
Summarily convicted	11,653
Committed for trial	486
Total	14,783

Of the number of summary convictions 1,109 were for offences against the person, 9 for malicious injury to property, 20 for cattle stealing and arson, 2,654 for other offences against property, 4,412 for offences against revenue, laws, municipal laws, &c., and 3,449 for other minor offences.

In the superior courts there were 347 convictions, 198 acquittals, particulars of which are as follows:—

Offences.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
Murder	113	85
Manslaughter	50	10
Attempted murder	3	1
Rape	11	5
Unnatural crimes	1	—
Theft with violence	4	13
Other offences against the person ...	28	9
Other offences against property ...	99	36
Miscellaneous offences	38	39
Malicious injury to property ...	—	—
Total	347	198

PRISONS.

In the Colony and Protectorate there were 45 prisons, and during 1912 31,893 prisoners passed through the registers.

Practically all these prisons were inspected and reported upon.

Health generally has been very unsatisfactory. An outbreak of dysentery and an epidemic of chicken-pox occurred in Calabar prison during the year. Total number of deaths, 347.

Further improvement is expected as buildings are being improved and new prisons built to replace old ones.

The expenditure on the prisons amounted to £51,503, and the earnings to £31,658, of which £903 was cash.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Western Province.

Lagos Hospital.—The out-patient department of the hospital was attended by 5,236 persons (Europeans and natives), whilst the in-patient department treated 2,218 persons (Europeans and natives).

Minor and major operations were performed to the number of 353.

Yaba Lunatic Asylum.—Forty-six cases received treatment, one recovered and five deaths occurred.

Yaba Leper Asylum.—Twenty-three cases were treated. There was one death.

Central Province.

Onitsha Hospital.—The out-patients numbered 5,291, the in-patients 1,090. Eight operations were performed.

Warri Hospital.—5,489 out-patients attended. In the European hospital there were 72 in-patients, with four deaths, and in the native hospital 372 in-patients, with 24 deaths.

Eastern Province.

Calabar Hospital.—8,056 out-patients sought treatment, whilst the European wards treated 132 in-patients, with five deaths, and the native wards 1,194, with 70 deaths.

Calabar Lunatic Asylum.—One death occurred among the 25 inmates of this institution.

Opobo European Hospital.—Two cases received treatment during the year.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The native population of Lagos and Ebute Metta in 1912 is estimated at 76,000, while that for the whole of Southern Nigeria is regarded as approximately 7,856,000, divided in the three provinces as follows:—

Western Province	...	...	...	2,151,000
Central Province	...	...	...	2,408,000
Eastern Province	...	...	...	3,297,000

2. The European population consisted of 760 Government officials and 1,080 non-officials.

3. There were 26 deaths and 32 cases of invaliding among European non-officials, and 9 deaths and 57 invalidings among Government officials.

SANITATION.

During the year 1912, owing to increased interest in the work by all concerned and more especially to the frequent and thorough visits to most of the European stations and large native towns by sanitary officers, the sanitation of the Colony and Protectorate showed a decided change for the better, water-supply, disposal of refuse and night-soil, prison ventilation and accommodation, the housing of Europeans, and mosquito-proofing of houses receiving special attention.

The progress of sanitation has been greatly facilitated by (*a*) the employment of European sanitary inspectors, who have been posted in the more important centres, and an increase in the number of native inspectors; (*b*) the framing or alteration of Ordinances and Orders in Council with regard to public health matters; (*c*) the prosecution of an active anti-mosquito campaign; (*d*) the adoption of sanitary schemes suited to various large centres; (*e*) the erection of new infectious diseases hospitals; (*f*) better provision for fumigation and disinfection of buildings, &c.; (*g*) a more thorough and systematic inspection of the railway; and (*h*) the reclamation of swamps.

As in 1911, the sum of £1,590 was voted for expenditure on general sanitary work outside the Lagos sanitary district.

Vaccination against small-pox was judiciously carried on, there being a large increase in the number of successful cases. No epidemic, and only few cases of this disease were reported.

There was no case of plague or yellow fever discovered, but provision was made for the possible outbreak of these diseases.

The general improvement in the Lagos sanitary district was very marked during the past year, and much progress has been made with the Iju Valley waterworks scheme, which is expected to be finished early in 1914.

The sanitary expenditure during 1912 was £8,384, plus a further sum of £14,068, which was used by the Public Works Department on drainage, reclamation, mosquito-proofing, and other sanitary works.

POSTAL.

The number of articles, exclusive of parcels, passing through post was 561,863 in excess of the previous year.

The total number of parcels dealt with was 17,625 more than in 1911, and there has also been an increase of 28,535 in the number of registered articles.

The number of cash-on-delivery parcels and packets received amounted to 16,826, the value of which was £15,465. Of this number 13,647 were delivered, and £13,528 was remitted to the senders in respect of trade charges thereon. All these parcels were received from the United Kingdom.

There was an increase in money order transactions to the extent of £20,339, whilst postal order business was £15,530 in excess of the previous year's transactions.

SAVINGS BANK.

The amount deposited in the Savings Bank during the year was £29,858, against £26,234 in 1911, an increase of £3,624. The withdrawals amounted to £27,483, as against £22,908 in 1911, an increase of £4,575.

The Bank held a total of £41,590 for 4,729 depositors on 31st December, 1912, as against £38,437 which stood to the credit of 4,368 depositors on 31st December, 1911.

The total sum invested on behalf of the Savings Bank by the Crown Agents for the Colonies in securities approved by the Secretary of State is £34,206.

Interest at 2½ per cent. per annum computed on various amounts deposited during the year aggregated £873, of which a sum of £96 was paid to depositors who closed their accounts, the difference, viz., £777, being added to capital in favour of the remaining depositors.

The amount realised by interest on invested Savings Bank Funds was £1,095.

TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

The reconstructed section of the telegraph line between Agege and Itori, 26 miles, was connected up in March and the old route dismantled.

Between Ilorin and Jebba two Northern Nigeria postal telegraph wires were transferred to the new telegraph route along the railway. One of these wires is now worked direct between Lagos and Zungeru with intermediate offices at Oshogbo, Ilorin, and Jebba. The other wire was extended from Ilorin to Oshogbo and gives communication between Oshogbo, Offa, Ilorin, Jebba, Pateji, and Lokoja.

On 1st February, 1912, the entire maintenance of telegraph and telephone poles, wires, and instruments, including electric staff, between Iddo and Minna, were handed over to the Telegraph Department. The scale of rent to be paid by the railway was fixed at 25*s*. per wire mile per annum to include renewals, and £5 per instrument.

The Lagos-Meko line was extended to meet the French West African system, and a junction was made at the River Yewa

four miles west of Meko. In August signals were exchanged between Lagos and Porto Novo (Dahomey) but the line was not opened for traffic.

The Lagos-Akado-Epe line was extended and a telegraph office opened in March at Ijebu-Ode.

A third wire was erected between Benin City and Agbor and direct working was established between Benin City and Lokoja viâ Ubiaja and Egori. The additional wire has proved of great benefit in dealing with traffic between Lokoja, Onitsha, Burutu and other Niger River stations.

A consignment of 12,000 yards of river cable for the Niger River crossings at Agenebode-Idah and Asaba-Onitsha was received, but upon being tested it was found that the insulation of the whole consignment was defective. Enquiry was made and after some difficulty it was eventually discovered that the ship in which the cable was originally shipped had been on fire and the cable had been subsequently transferred to another ship. There were no outward visible signs to show that the cable had been damaged but the heat had evidently destroyed the insulation. A claim was submitted for the damaged cable and an order placed for a new consignment.

The telegraph main line was diverted to follow the new road between Asaba and Issele.

The telephone system at Lagos was extended to Apapa and the railway, Ebute-Metta, exchange was transferred to the Telegraph Department.

There were 37 additional connections to the Lagos exchange, making the total number of telephones connected 167. The public subscriptions increased from £396 to £489.

A small exchange with ten subscribers was opened at Ibadan.

Instructions were received to open telephonic communication between Asaba and Ogwashi-Uku. The distance is 20 miles and it was found possible to utilise the telegraph poles for about 11 miles. Telephonic communication was established in December.

The Warri telephone exchange has been appreciated and eight public subscribers were added during the year.

At Calabar there was an increase during the year of six public and ten official subscribers to the telephone exchange. At the end of the year there were 53 public instruments and 61 official instruments in use.

There was an increase of one subscriber to the exchange at Opobo, making the number of instruments in use, public, 18 instruments, official, 10.

In addition to the telephone exchanges at Lagos, Ebute-Metta, Ibadan, Warri, Opobo, and Calabar, there are smaller telephone systems at Abeokuta, Oyo, Oshogbo, Ilesha, Onitsha, Itu, Afikpo, and Obubra.

The telegraph and telephone systems in Southern Nigeria at the end of the year consisted of 2,144 pole miles, including 57 miles of river cables, and 5,167 wire miles, which, linked with Northern Nigeria, gave a total mileage at the end of the year of 4,328 pole miles, with 8,700 wire miles and 138 telegraph offices.

In Southern Nigeria there was an increase of 87,388 telegrams, or 17 per cent., and an increase of £1,143 in paid telegrams, or 19 per cent. There was an increase of £662, or 16 per cent., in cablegrams handed in at Southern Nigeria telegraph offices, and an increase of £2,888, or 40 per cent., in cablegrams handed in at Northern Nigeria telegraph offices for transmission viâ Lagos.

The paid telephone service shows an increase in paid subscriptions of £399, or 38 per cent.

The revenue increased from £20,645 to £27,473, an increase of £6,828, or 35 per cent., and the expenditure from £27,683 to £31,718, an increase of £4,035, or 11 per cent. The large increase in expenditure was due to the transfer of the railway telegraph maintenance staff to the Telegraph Department during the year.

RAILWAY.

During the year 1912 the Lagos Government Railway, from Iddo to Minna, was amalgamated with the Baro-Kano Railway, including the Bauchi Light Railway, from Baro to Kano, the junction of the two lines being at Minna (mile 467), under the name of the Nigerian Railway, the actual unification taking place on October 3rd. The gross revenue for 1912 for the Nigerian Railway amounted to £394,919, the working expenses to £236,280, and the net revenue to £158,639. The number of passengers carried in 1912 was 870,626, yielding a revenue of £96,512; the number of third-class passengers was 844,067. The tonnage of goods carried in 1912 was 328,329 tons, earning £291,935. For the Lagos Harbour Works scheme 159,982 tons of stone were brought down.

The above figures are for the amalgamated railways, and the following shows the separate results of the working for the Baro-Kano Railway and Bauchi Light Railway (nine months only in the latter case):—The working expenses for the Baro-Kano line (£103,643) exceeded the gross revenue (£90,422) by £13,221. The number of passengers carried was 84,819, bringing in a revenue of £13,298; third-class passengers numbering 82,726. The goods revenue was £69,971: 24,413 tons having been carried. For the nine months of the Bauchi Light Railway the net revenue earned was £6,773, the gross revenue totalling to £18,723; working expenses amounted to £11,950. This branch carried 22,965 passengers in 1912, of which 22,170 were third-class; the receipts for this traffic came to £2,448. 5,456 tons of goods were carried, earning a revenue of £14,902. The total mileage open for traffic at the end of the year was 912 miles.

MOTOR SERVICE.

The Ibadan-Oyo Road motor service was taken over by the railway on the 1st June, 1912. The working results show earnings £2,731 against working expenses of £2,895, or a net loss for the seven months of £164.

WATERWAYS.

Western Province.

Owing to the abnormal rise of the water throughout the sudd region early in September several very heavy blocks of sudd formed, which completely closed the launch route to navigation for the time being. By the end of October these waterways were again opened for traffic. Clearing work was carried on to the end of December, widening and improving the various channels.

Central Province.

The Niger River waterway parties commenced work on the 5th June at Idah and cleared down stream; the river being exceptionally low, every snag between Idah and Abo was easily removed. Work was continued till the end of July.

The Omerum River was cleared from Onitsha to the entrance of the Mamu River. The Mamu River was cleared to the Awka-Udi Road, and, although the clearing did not admit of launch navigation, 15 tons of coal were actually brought down from Amansim to the Niger in steel poling canoes in June.

Eastern Province.

The Ota—Minni River channels were widened and underwater growth cleared as far as Nekede. Two months' work was carried out in the River Imo.

The Azumini or Aba River was cleared from the source of the river, which is some five miles above the town of Aba, to its junction with the Imo River. Work was carried on in Stubbs Creek from January to April. It has been decided, however, to abandon the scheme of opening up this connexion between the Calabar and Kwa—Ibo Rivers owing to the heavy cost of maintaining a navigable route through such swampy country.

MARINE SERVICES.

In the Western Province there were two mail transport services.

(*i*) Lagos—Porto-Novo Weekly Mail and Transport Service between Lagos and Porto-Novo, calling at intermediate ports. The total number of passengers carried during the first ten months of the year was 5,104.

(*ii*) Lagos—Siluko—Sapele Weekly Mail and Transport Service between Lagos and Sapele, calling at intermediate ports. The total number of passengers carried during the year was 6,450. The Lagos—Porto-Novo Service was discontinued in November in favour of one run by the Chargeurs Réunis, a French shipping company subsidised by the French Government.

In the Central Province there are two mail and transport services:—

(*i*) The Forcados—Burutu—Warri Service.

(*ii*) The Forcados—Koko—Sapele Service.

21,289 passengers and 1,287 tons of cargo were carried during the year.

In the Eastern Province the services maintained are:—

The Cross River Mail and Transport Service and the Akassa—Bonny—Opobo Mail and Transport Service.

(*i*) The Cross River Mail and Transport Service is run weekly by stern wheelers between Calabar and Ikom. During the dry season months the mail service is carried on by shallow draught motor launches, the river above Itu not being navigable for any vessel drawing more than 12 to 18 inches. 14,249 passengers and 1,571 tons of cargo were carried during the year.

(*ii*) The Akassa—Bonny—Opobo Mail and Transport Service. This service is now entirely carried out by motor craft. 10,822 passengers and 1,112 tons of cargo were carried during the year.

ROADS AND WORKS.

Roads.

Western Province.

The total length of roadways in Lagos which have been resurfaced and repaired with laterite amounted to about 6½ miles.

Several new laterite roads have been constructed, as follows:—

Road from Five Cowrie Creek to Golf Links Road.

Marina from King's Street to Freeman Street.

Road across Golf Links to McGregor Canal completed.

Martin Street, Kosoko Street, &c.

Two laterite roads across Ikoyi Plains; one from McGregor Canal Bridge to the New I. D. hospital about 2 miles in length, and the other branching off from it near the Hausa Lines, making due east towards Ikoyi Village.

Isheri Market Road, 5 miles 25 chains of road completed.

Papalanto—Agbesi Road, 1 mile 75 chains of road completed.

Opelifa—Alagada Road, completed.

Eruwa—Lanlate Road, completed up to 14 miles 10 chains from Eruwa Station.

Otta Road, 2 miles 72 chains completed.

Ede—Ife Road, 8 miles of this road constructed, with bridges and culverts for the first 3 miles.

Iseyin towards Shaki, 16½ miles of road made by the Public Works Department, 27 miles carried out by the District Commissioner, Oyo; 16 iron culverts constructed.

Egerton Road completed.

Oshogbo—Ogbomosho Road, 17 miles 72 chains formed; 6 miles 62 chains laterited; culverts and bridges completed up to 14 miles.

Ikirun—Ila Road, metalling completed.

Central Province.

Onitsha—Awka Road completed. A number of extra culverts put in and the bridge at the 17th mile widened. Throughout the year there was continuous motor traffic running.

A large amount of minor road and bridge works have been carried out, the most important being Benin City—Agbor Road, three screw pile bridges completed and new approach deviation made, also about eight miles of road regraded and surfaced. Sapele—Kwale Road, screw pile bridge erected. Orashi Bridge, a screw pile structure on five spans with reinforced decking. Bridge over Okija River, a reinforced concrete structure.

It is now possible to motor in a light car from Warri to Sapele, Benin City, Kwale, Agbor, and Asaba on the west side of the Niger, and on the east side from Onitsha to Awka and Udi, and from Onitsha to the boundary of the Eastern Province in the direction of Oguta. A short link is being constructed to connect with the Eastern Province roads, and when this is finished it will be possible to continue the journey to Itu.

Eastern Province.

Marina at Bonny, constructed.
Bridges on Oron—Eket Road and over Calabar Canal.
Improvement to Obubra—Abakaliki Road.
Improvement to Azumini—Opobo Road.

Works.

Western Province.

Lagos District:—
- Government offices, completed.
- Machinery and buildings, P.W.D. yard, frame work of first half of the factory, completed.
- Golf links drainage, completed.
- Race course drainage, outfall and mainland drains, completed.
- Oke-Suna reclamation handed over to the Marine Department.
- New post office, half the iron work erected.
- Bonded warehouse, completed.
- Four double bungalows for W.A.F.F., completed.
- Quarters for five officers, completed.
- Double bungalow, Apapa, completed.

Ibadan District:—
- Extension to post office, completed.
- Garage, Public Works Department, completed.
- Improvement to water supply.
- Quarters for clerks, Moor Plantation, completed.
- Bungalow, Moor Plantation, built.
- Quarters for postal clerks, completed.
- Native court house, completed.
- Store and strong room, completed.

Central Province.

Warri:—
Medical office, built.
Customs House, built.
Forcados:—
Semi-detached bungalow, completed.
Prison extension (including Isolation Hospital), carried out.
Reclamation and drainage—about 40,000 cubic yards of soil have been deposited to fill swamps at Forcados—undertaken.
Sapele:—
Extension to prison, completed.
Native Hospital, completed.
Mortuary, completed.

Eastern Province.

Calabar:—
Extension of drainage, various open brick drains, constructed.
Embankment river frontage, 148 yards river wall, built.
Verandahs, clerks' quarters, erected.
Water supply, new boilers and pumps, fixed.
Two bungalows, built.
Quarters for artizans.
Lines for 12 police, built.
Improvement Creek Town, screw pile jetty, latrine and well.
New concrete decking Public Works Department Wharf, Fort Stuart.
Quarters for 20 prison staff, built.
Solitary cells, Calabar Prison.
Fumigatorium, Agricultural Department.
Itu:—
Reclamation, carried out.
Single bungalow, built.
Public Works Department, workshop and store, built.
Native Hospital and dispensary.
Ikot Ekpene:—
Bungalow, built.
District office and strong room, built.
Abakaliki:—
Iron roofing station buildings, built.
Shed for carriers, erected.
Bonny:—
Sea defence wall, built.
Isolation Hospital, built.
Reclamation, carried out.
Latrine, erected.
Quarters for marine artizans, built.
Opobo:—
Reclamation, carried out.
River wall, built.
Quarters for native staff, built.
Police office and store, built.
Public Works Department store, completed.

Degema:—
Lines for police, built.
Brass:—
Reclamation, carried out.
Bungalow, built.
Akassa:—
Quarters for Customs, built.

CLIMATE.

At Lagos Observatory the mean shade temperature was 81·2°; the highest was 98° in November, and the lowest 69° in June.

The greatest rainfall—178·41 inches—was at Bonny (lat. 4° 27′ N., long. 7° 10′ E.), and the least—27·86 inches—at Ibadan (lat. 7° 24′ N., long. 3° 53′ E.).

The rainfall at provincial headquarters was:—
Lagos (lat. 6° 27′ N., long. 3° 24′ E.), 40·50 inches.
Calabar (lat. 4° 58′ N., long. 8° 19′ E.), 95·10 inches.
Warri (lat. 5° 31′ N., long. 5° 44′ E.), 110·37 inches.

The "harmattan" winds continued from 18th November, 1912, to 19th February, 1913.

MILITARY.

The Southern Nigeria Regiment of the West African Frontier Force took part during 1912 in the following operations:—
Yaki-Akaju Escort: 26th January to February.
Indem-Befum Boundary Escort: 20th February to 15th March.
Ihitukwa Escort: February.
Onicha-Nzerim Escort: February.
Ogoja-Munshi Patrol: 13th June to 30th November.
Okpoha Patrol: 13th August to 1st September.
Isu Patrol: 25th August to 11th September.
Nyimago Patrol: 8th October to 18th November.
Ikorbu Escort: 27th October to 21st November.

IMPORTANT EVENTS AND GENERAL CONDITION OF THE COUNTRY AND PEOPLE.

His Excellency Sir Walter Egerton, K.C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-chief, left Southern Nigeria on the 27th of February, 1912, to proceed to England on leave of absence preparatory to assuming the government of British Guiana, after which date Mr. F. S. James, C.M.G., acted as Governor until the return of the Colonial Secretary, Mr. A. G. Boyle, C.M.G., on the 26th August, who administered the government from that date until the arrival of Sir F. Lugard.

Sir F. J. D. Lugard, G.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., Governor and Commander-in-chief of Northern Nigeria and Southern Nigeria, arrived at Lagos on the 3rd of October, 1912, to assume the government. Sir Frederick arrived charged with the duty of reporting upon the proposed amalgamation of Northern and Southern Nigeria. The Customs, Railway, and Marine Departments of both Administrations were combined before the close of the year.

With regard to the general condition of the country and people there is little to add to the reports on the Blue Books for 1910 and 1911. The Provincial Commissioner, Central Province, in the course of a report, says: "The year under review has shown a marked improvement in the attitude of the natives towards the Government, as evidenced by their cordial co-operation in public works, more particularly in improved means of communication, designed for their benefit; their increased confidence in and consequent closer intercourse with District Commissioners and the increasing use for the native courts as a means of settling their disputes. A particularly gratifying feature has been the entire absence of the necessity for armed intervention, except in the outlying and more recently opened up districts."

F. S. JAMES,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

15th September, 1913.

APPENDIX I.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE IMPORTATION OF SPIRITS INTO NIGERIA DURING THE FIVE YEARS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1912.

Year.	*Quantity in gallons.	Declared value.	Revenue derived from duties.	Duty chargeable.	Explanations.
		£	£		
1908	3,235,670 (1,577,760)	332,577	691,190	From 22nd December, 1906, 4*s.* the imperial gallon, not exceeding 50 degrees by Tralle's Alcoholometer, and an additional 1*d.* for every degree or part of a degree in excess of 50 degrees.	Spirit imports amounted to 7·76 per cent. of whole inward trade.
1909	2,950,111 (1,365,150)	308,770	639,503	From 15th January, 1909, 5*s.* the imperial gallon, not exceeding 50 degrees by Tralle's Alcoholometer, and for every degree or part of a degree in excess of such strength an additional duty of 2½*d.* per imperial gallon. For every degree below such strength a reduction of 1½*d.* per imperial gallon. Minimum duty 4*s.* per imperial gallon.	Value of spirit imports amounted to 6·22 per cent. of whole inward trade, including specie.
1910	4,748,139 (1,973,910)	456,485	999,823	As above	Value of spirit imports amounted to 7·79 per cent. of the whole inward trade, including specie.
1911	4,835,363 (1,839,960)	440,818	975,557	As above	Value of spirit imports amounted to 7·76 per cent. of whole inward trade, including specie.
1912	4,450,196 (1,774,856)	440,952	1,013,807	From 4th March, 1912, 5*s.* 6*d.* the imperial gallon not exceeding 50 degrees by Tralles Alcoholometer, and for every degree or part of a degree in excess of such strength an additional duty of 2½*d.* per imperial gallon. For every degree below, reduction of 1½*d.* per imperial gallon. Minimum duty 4*s.* 6*d.* per imperial gallon.	Value of spirit imports amounted to 6·9 per cent. of the whole inward trade, including specie.

* Imports of spirits at 100° Tralles shown in brackets.

APPENDIX II.

WORK CONDUCTED AT THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE DURING THE YEAR 1912 FOR THE COLONY OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

Reports on the following subjects were furnished to the Government of Southern Nigeria from the Imperial Institute during 1912 as the result of investigations conducted in the Scientific and Technical Department, supplemented when necessary by reference to commercial experts.

Fibres.—A sample of fibre, which was probably obtained from a species of Hibiscus, was found to be very similar to jute in chemical behaviour, but was harsher and not so lustrous. The fibre was valued in London at nominally £19 to £21 per ton, with China jute at £17 to £19 per ton.

Rubber.—A sample of Para biscuit rubber from Sapele, Central Province, was satisfactory both in composition and physical properties. The rubber was classed by brokers as of fair average quality and was valued at 4*s.* 10*d.* per lb. in London, with fine hard Para at 4*s.* 10½*d.* per lb. and smoked plantation sheet at 4*s.* 8*d.* to 4*s.* 11*d.* per lb.

Beans.—Eleven samples of beans grown by natives in Southern Nigeria were found to be suitable for sale in the United Kingdom for cattle food, and in some cases for human consumption. It was recommended that, if in the future the production of these beans become sufficiently large to permit of their exportation, samples should be forwarded to the Imperial Institute for submission to buyers, together with information as to the quantities available.

Maize.—A sample of maize which had been exposed to a temperature of 140° F. with a view to the destruction of weevils was forwarded for examination in order to determine the effect of the treatment on the market value of the grain. The maize was of fairly good quality, but had unfortunately suffered from insect attack and its value was consequently reduced. It was valued by brokers at 6*s.* 5*d.* to 6*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb. ex quay Liverpool, and by a firm of merchants in London at £6 5*s.* per ton.

Recommendations were made by the Imperial Institute as to further experiments in the heating of maize, which should be conducted in Southern Nigeria with a view to the destruction of weevils in the grain prior to export.

Tea.—Two samples of tea grown and prepared at the Agricultural Station at Onitsha were, on the whole, of very promising character, and were valued by brokers in London at 9*d.* to 9½*d.* and 10*d.* to 10½*d.* per lb., respectively. A further sample arrived in an unsatisfactory state for valuation, but the brokers expressed the opinion that, if in sound condition, it would have been worth about 9*d.* per lb. in London.

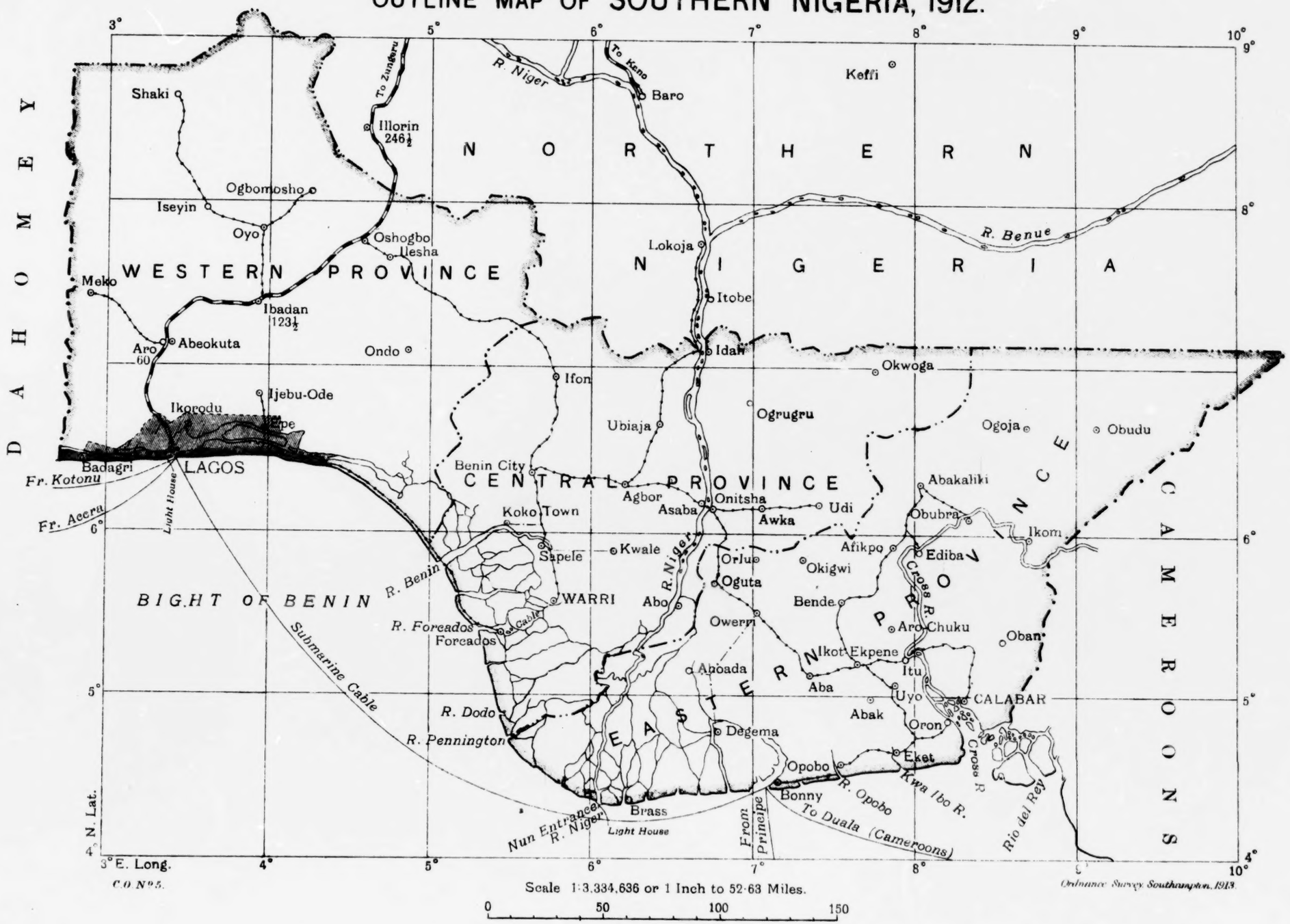
Palm Fruits.—A sample of palm fruits was found to contain 27·2 per cent. of oil in the ordinary pulp adhering to the nuts. The fruits had also a peculiar outer pulpy covering or perianth, which contained 69·9 per cent. of oil, equivalent to 14·8 per cent. calculated on the whole fruits, so that the fruits yielded altogether 42 per cent. of oil. It was suggested that the seed of this palm should be planted experimentally, in order to ascertain whether the type of fruit is permanent.

Oil-seeds.—A sample of *Pentadesma butyracea* kernels yielded 40 per cent. of a solid yellowish fat. Commercial experts stated that the fat is highly coloured and would need refining before it could be used to advantage in soap making, and that the residual cake would be of no value as a feeding-stuff. In these circumstances they considered that the kernels would probably be worth only £8 to £10 per ton in the United Kingdom.

Mangrove Bark.—Reports were furnished during the year on several samples representing different varieties of mangrove bark, which, however, were not rich enough in tannin to be worth exporting to Europe, but would be suitable for local use in Southern Nigeria.

Minerals.—The examination of specimens collected by the Mineral Surveyors was continued during the year, and a report on the results of the work of the Survey during 1910 was published as No. 83 (Cd. 6425) of the Miscellaneous Series of Colonial Reports. Special reports were furnished on the results of the examination, at the Imperial Institute, of the lignite from Okpanam, and of coal from Udi and other districts. Other minerals examined and reported on included a large number of borings from wells sunk in the course of a search for petroleum in the Colony, and small specimens of lignite, quartz, iron-stone, mica, and sand-stone.

OUTLINE MAP OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA, 1912.



Scale 1:3,334,636 or 1 Inch to 52·63 Miles.

0 50 100 150

REFERENCE

Railway constructed .....

Telegraph ,, ...

,, under construction .....

Headquarters of Administrative Districts .....

Portion of Southern Nigeria known as the Colony .....

Miscellaneous.—Minor reports were furnished on samples of cocoa beans, pepper, and cinnamon. Botanical specimens of "bitter kola" were submitted to the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, and identified as *Garcinia conrauana*, Engl., and fruiting specimens of a supposed new species of Manihot were found to be derived from *Manihot utilissima* var. *hyptiaphylla*.

Commercial Enquiries.—Information was furnished to firms in the United Kingdom regarding samples of products from Southern Nigeria which they submitted to the Imperial Institute, including Para rubber, mangrove bark, tinstone, phosphate of lime, and silver-lead ore. Enquiries regarding the cultivation of ginger in the Colony and other subjects were also dealt with during the year.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
747	St. Vincent	1911–1912
748	Barbados	"
749	Leeward Islands	"
750	Straits Settlements	1911
751	East Africa Protectorate	1911–1912
752	St. Lucia	"
753	Gilbert and Ellice Islands...	1911
754	Cayman Islands (Jamaica)	1911–1912
755	Gibraltar	1912
756	St. Helena	"
757	Weihaiwei	"
758	Ceylon	1911–1912
759	Sierra Leone	1912
760	Seychelles	"
761	Somaliland	1912–1913
762	Hong Kong...	1912
763	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
764	Falkland Islands	"
765	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast...	"
766	Bahamas	"
767	Gambia	"
768	Fiji	"
769	Basutoland	1912–1913
770	Gold Coast	1912
771	Ashanti	"
772	Nyasaland	1912–1913
773	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
774	British Solomon Islands	"
775	Colonial Survey Committee	"
776	Tongan Islands Protectorate	1911–1913
777	Swaziland	1912–1913
778	Imperial Institute	1912
779	Barbados	1912–1913
780	British Guiana	"
781	Entomological Research Committee	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Surveys, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 825.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

REPORT FOR 1913.

(For Report for 1912 see No. 782.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

January, 1915.

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No. 825.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

(For Report for 1912 see No. 782.)

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

Government House,

Nigeria,

4th November, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Blue Book for Southern Nigeria for the past year. I much regret that its production has been so long delayed, but the pressure consequent on amalgamation, on many radical changes in administrative policy and methods, and, lastly, the outbreak of war, has rendered it difficult during the present year to cope with the work.

2. This is the last Annual Report and Blue Book for the old Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria, which under my predecessor increased wonderfully in material prosperity. The actual revenue realised in 1911 (shortly after which he left Nigeria) was £1,956,176, which was increased in the year under review to £2,668,198, while trade has increased from 10 to $12\frac{3}{4}$ millions. The import of trade liquor was not appreciably less during the past year than in 1910 and 1911, in spite of the increase in the duty of 6*d*. per gallon in March, 1912, and 9*d*. in March, 1913.

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3. The revenue from the Forestry Department practically balanced the total expenditure, but the Chief Conservator reports an appalling destruction of most valuable forests, which the protection afforded by existing legislation has been powerless to arrest. The matter is one which very urgently calls for effective action, since a few more years of this wholesale destruction will, as Mr. Thompson states, result not merely in the effacement of forests, which it would take many decades to replace, but in the impoverishment of agricultural lands, the denudation of hill sides, and the conversion of the rivers into torrential streams whose beds would run dry during a great part of the year.

4. The system of education has, I fear, proved inadequate to provide for the growing needs of the country, whether in the clerical or in the technical spheres, nor is the standard attained by the young men who offer themselves for service either to Government or to commercial firms in any way satisfactory, while complaints are heard on all sides of the lack of discipline and self-control of the rising generation. The attendance both in Government and in assisted schools shews a satisfactory increase on 1912.

5. The legislation of the year in view of approaching amalgamation was not of especial importance, and only two Ordinances were enacted which are worthy of special note. The Minerals Ordinance was an attempt to introduce in the Eastern and Central Provinces a practical and useful law, and the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Ordinance introduced a scheme which had been under consideration for some time to provide a fund for widows and orphans of deceased British Government officials.

6. The convictions in the Supreme Court, especially for murder, shewed a very marked decrease, and the occasions on which it was necessary to resort to military force for the suppression of organised disturbance of the peace were comparatively few and unimportant.

7. The year was marked by great efforts and progress in sanitation, not only in the large coast ports, but throughout the country and especially on the railway. In Lagos an outbreak of yellow fever necessitated very special efforts, and the information gained by the thorough methods of investigation conclusively shewed that this terrible disease is endemic in the country.

8. The railways of north and south were amalgamated during the year under the extremely able management of Mr. Cooper, and increased their earnings by nearly 50 per cent. A system of equality of rates between the railway and the Niger River Transport was established, and the average freight per ton mile was reduced by 24 per cent. The extension to the centre of the mine fields was nearly completed.

9. The Marine Services were worked with their usual efficiency under the control of Lieutenant Child, and the Niger flotilla, which was in a very bad state when taken over from Northern Nigeria, was gradually repaired.

10. The construction of the moles at the entrance of Lagos Harbour was steadily pushed forward, and at last began to shew practical results in the deepening of the bar, so that large vessels were able to enter the port for the first time.

11. The large waterworks for Lagos neared completion and a very extended programme of public works was undertaken.

12. Perhaps the two most striking events of the year were the inauguration of a new main trunk railway from Port Harcourt to the east of the Niger, near Bonny, to meet the western line at Kaduna, 570 miles from Lagos, and the amalgamation of the Railway, Marine, and Customs Departments of the two Nigerias in anticipation of the general amalgamation which was to follow in 1914.

13. I have pleasure in submitting to you what I trust you will agree with me in considering a satisfactory report for the year 1913.

I have, &c.,

F. LUGARD,

Governor-General.

The Right Honourable

LEWIS HARCOURT, M.P., P.C.,

Secretary of State for the Colonies,

&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1913.

FINANCIAL POSITION.

(Southern Nigeria and Combined Departments.)

As a preliminary step towards the complete unification of the Administrations of the Nigerias, the Customs, Marine, and Railway Departments of Northern Nigeria were each amalgamated on the 1st of January, 1913, with the corresponding department of Southern Nigeria; and the group thus formed was designated the Combined Departments. This change involved the removal of the revenue and expenditure of those departments together with the charge on account of Public Debt from the Estimates of both Administrations.

In the following summary the whole of the revenue and expenditure of the Combined Departments *is included* with the revenue and expenditure of Southern Nigeria in the column headed 1913, whilst columns 1912 and 1911 include a portion only (but by far the greater portion) of the revenue and expenditure of the Combined Departments:—

	1913.	1912.	1911.
	£	£	£
Actual Revenue..	2,668,198	2,235,412	1,956,176
Above the original estimate ..	399,527	—	—
Above the revenue of 1912 ..	432,786	—	—
Actual Expenditure excluding Loan ..	2 096,311	2,110,498	1,717,259
Below the original estimate ..	124,314	—	—
Below the expenditure of 1912 ..	14,187	—	—
Surplus Assets on 31st December ..	1,704,427	1,132,540	1,007,625
Increase over 1912, *i.e.*, the net profit on the year	571,887	124,915	—
Loan Expenditure	575,857	307,083	589,790
Below the original estimate ..	281,150	—	—
Above the loan expenditure of 1912	268,774	—	—
Loan Funds unexpended at the end of the year	1,111,462	1,687,319	2,139,653
Public Debt (Funded)	8,267,569	8,267,665	8,365,488
Sinking Fund accumulated	152,466	115,268	86,221

REVENUE.

The total actual revenue collected during 1913 amounted to £2,668,198; this figure exceeded the income *originally estimated* by £399,527. The details are as follows:—

Receipts.	Amount Estimated.	Actual Receipts.	More than Estimated	Less than Estimated
SOUTHERN NIGERIA:—	£	£	£	£
Heads of Revenue:—				
Licences, etc.	19,795	18,012	—	1,783
Fees, etc.	64,636	74,168	9,532	—
Postal	16,880	18,651	1,771	—
Rent	3,150	3,265	115	—
Interest	1,320	1,442	122	—
Miscellaneous	1,950	7,519	5,569	—
Total	£107,731	123,057	17,109	1,783
COMBINED DEPARTMENTS:—				
Customs	1,547,200	1,772,619	225 419	—
Marine	34,570	32,129	—	2,441
Railway	543,500	632,130	88,630	—
Interest	35,270	108,103	72,833	—
Total Ordinary Revenue	2,268,271	2,668,038	403,991	4,224
Land Sales	400	160	—	40
Total Revenue ..	£2,268,671	2,668,198	403,991	4,464

It will be observed that the revenue collected is well over the amounts estimated. Under Southern Nigeria the excess is spread over five heads out of six; under Combined Departments the excess is spread over three heads out of four. An increase of 9*d*. per gallon on spirits helped to produce an excess of £180,000 over the sum expected from specific customs duties, and the railway yielded £88,000 excess.

The percentage of contribution of main revenue heads to total revenue was as follows:—

Customs	66·4
Nigerian Railway	23·7
Fees, &c.	2·8
Licences, &c.	0·7
Postal	0·7
Marine	1·2

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for 1913 on all heads of service exclusive of expenditure from loan funds on certain specific undertakings amounted to £2,096,311.

Payments.	Amount Estimated.	Actual Payments.	More than Estimated	Less than Estimated
SOUTHERN NIGERIA :—				
Heads of Expenditure :—	£	£	£	£
Pensions and Gratuities ..	18,838	22,222	3,384	—
Governor's Office	7,672	5,808	—	1,864
Colonial Secretariat ..	15,173	13,966	—	1,207
Intelligence	1,287	1,287	—	—
Commercial Intelligence ..	946	833	—	113
Political and Administrative	104,542	97,422	—	7,120
Judicial	28,867	23,226	—	5,641
Legal	4,450	4,383	—	67
Treasury	16,653	15,021	—	1,632
Postal	16,913	16,722	—	191
Telegraphs and Telephones, Recurrent	32,159	29,751	—	2,408
Audit	11,479	11,037	—	442
Printing	12,298	10,566	—	1,732
Force, Southern Nigeria Regiment	117,439	123,127	5,688	—
Volunteers	3,480	1,220	—	2,260
Civil Police	52,454	50,288	—	2,166
Prisons	48,585	47,702	—	883
Forestry	20,896	20,600	—	296
Agriculture	14,275	12,163	—	2,112
Medical	80,417	76,622	—	3,795
Laboratory	753	684	—	69
Medical Research Institute	1,792	1,378	—	414
Sanitary—Recurrent ..	10,544	9,143	—	1,401
Education	35,309	33,280	—	2,029
Surveys—Recurrent ..	25,286	23,608	—	1,678
Mineral Survey	2,700	2,934	234	—
Lands	2,074	1,928	—	146
Miscellaneous Services ..	71,013	73,155	2,142	—
Public Works	58,933	55,082	—	3,851
Public Works—Recurrent	40,910	39,622	—	1,288
Telegraphs & Telephones—Special	5,300	8,325	3,025	—
Sanitary—Special	328	1,490	1,162	—
Surveys—Special	1,550	1,819	269	—
Public Works—Extraordinary	150,958	85,503	—	65,455
Public Works—Total	1,016,273	921,916	15,903	110,260
COMBINED DEPARTMENTS :—				
Charge on Account of Public Debt	95,598	354,037	258,439	—
Customs	47,030	47,570	540	—
Marine Recurrent	191,093	182,190	—	8,903
Railway—Recurrent ..	645,355	372,465	—	272,890
Nigerian Eastern Railway	—	44,801	44,801	—
Marine—Special	45,990	46,538	548	—
Railway—Special	179,286	126,793	—	52,493
Total Expenditure from Revenue	£2,220,625	2,096,311	320,231	444,545

The total expenditure has been kept well within the total *original estimate*, the net saving being £124,314. The only items which call for notice here are (*a*) an excess of £258,439 on account of Public Debt charges, due mainly to sums of £216,567 and £29,951 (interest and sinking fund on the Railway portion of the Public Debt) being provided under Railway, but brought to account under this head; (*b*) an expenditure of £44,801 on the Nigerian Eastern Railway, for which no provision had been made; (*c*) a saving of £65,455 on Public Works Extraordinary, owing to some works having been postponed and others not being completed within the year; (*d*) a saving of £272,890 on Railway Recurrent Expenditure, of which £246,518 is explained in (*a*) above; and (*e*) a saving of £52,493 on Railway Special Expenditure, due to same causes as in (*c*) above.

Assets, Public Debt and Loan Expenditure.

Exclusive of the public debt, the assets of the Colony and Protectorate exceeded the liabilities on 31st December, 1913, by £1,704,427. The Public Debt stood at £8,267,569 and the total Loan Expenditure up to the end of the year at £7,393,064.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES.

The principal industries of the native population of Southern Nigeria are those connected with agriculture and the collection of forest produce. Among the minor industrial pursuits may be mentioned fishing and fish-curing, weaving, metal and leather working, canoe-building, basket and mat-making, dyeing, carpentry, and pottery manufacture. The occupation of the Europeans, other than those employed under Government, is almost exclusively confined to commerce.

Trade.

Owing to the fact that goods and produce for the whole of Nigeria are embodied in one return by the Customs, and appear together in the Blue Book statistics, it is impossible to state exactly what proportion of the total increase of 1½ millions sterling in the purely commercial Nigerian imports and exports for the year under review may be credited properly to Southern Nigeria. Allowing, however, for the largely augmented exports of products which have their main source of origin in the north, and for resulting increased imports into Northern Nigeria, it may be stated fairly, as a very conservative estimate, that the value of commercial imports and exports (specie excluded) of Southern Nigeria during 1913 was at least £500,000 more than the previous year.

The figures for the *whole* of Nigeria (north and south together) for each of the last three years are as follows :—

Commercial Imports and Exports (Specie excluded).

	Imports.*	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1911	4,726,000	5,353,000	10,079,000
1912	5,467,000	5,772,000	11,239,000
1913	5,701,000	7,097,000	12,798,000

Government importations, which in 1913 amounted to £630,000, are not included in these totals. Incidentally it may be noted in connexion with the above figures, which show an average annual total value of slightly over 11¼ millions for the years 1911–1913, that the corresponding average for the years 1906–1908 was 6½ millions only.

The satisfactory position disclosed by these comparative figures may be attributed mainly to improved means of communication—railways, rivers and roads—which have enabled the European merchants to establish interior trading stations; to more settled conditions throughout Nigeria; to enhanced prices realised in Europe for the staple products of the Colony and Protectorate; and to the tin mining industry developed in Northern Nigeria during recent years which contributed £568,000 to the export total in 1913.

Dealing with the year immediately under notice, it will be observed that 85 per cent. of the advance in the total value of imports and exports together (1913 over 1912) is caused by increased exports, only £234,000 of the £1,500,000 surplus being due to imports. Two-fifths of the £1,325,000 increase in total exports is clearly due to greater production in Northern Nigeria, the value of ground-nuts, hides and skins, shea products and tin being £540,000 more than in 1912, this result being attributable to the improved transport facilities afforded by the railway to Kano, and in an almost equal degree to the larger output on the tin fields.

For ready reference, and in order that it may be clearly understood how large a share of the growth in volume of Nigerian exports is due to greater activity in the north, the following table is appended :—

Exports having their source of origin wholly or mainly in Northern Nigeria.

	Ground Nuts.	Hides and Skins.	Shea Products.	Tin.
	£	£	£	£
1911	10,377	37,809	40,496	181,759
1912	18,930	68,832	51,407	336,330
1913	174,716	197,214	74,471	568,428

* Includes both oversea and overland imports.

The principal Southern Nigerian products exported during the same years were as under :—

Products of major importance exported from and having their main source of origin in Southern Nigeria.

	Palm Kernels.	Palm Oil.	Cotton Lint.	Cocoa.	Mahogany.
	£	£	£	£	£
1911	2,574,405	1,696,875	66,935	164,664	55,575
1912	2,797,411	1,654,933	102,932	130,542	78,007
1913	3,109,818	1,854,384	159,223	157,480	105,440

The following figures show the quantities and average prices realised in Europe for the chief exports of Southern Nigeria :—

Quantities of principal Southern Nigeria Exports for the Years 1911–13.

	Palm Kernels.	Palm Oil.	Lint Cotton.	Cocoa.	Mahogany.
	Tons.	Tons.	lb.	lb.	Logs.
1911	176,000	79,000	2,238,000	9,859,000	13,675
1912	185,000	77,000	4,373,000	7,594,000	15,565
1913	175,000	83,000	6,361,000	8,112,000	19,152

Average Annual Value of above Products on the Liverpool Market.

	Palm Kernels. per ton.			Palm Oil. per ton.			Mid. American. per lb.	Cocoa. per cwt.			Mahogany.
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	d.	£	s.	d.	
1911 ..	18	6	0	31	15	0	7·03	2	8	0	No standard
1912 ..	19	15	0	29	18	0	6·46	2	10	6	prices avail-
1913 ..	23	5	0	32	15	0	7·00	2	18	6	able.

Against the shortage of 10,000 tons of palm-kernels must be placed increased exports of locally manufactured palm-kernel oil and cake, which together were 8,000 tons more in 1913 than in 1912. Owing to the short rainfall in the Western Province during 1912, the oil crop of 1913 was adversely affected in that part of the Protectorate, and the export of palm produce from Lagos fell almost 20,000 tons short of the previous year. Fortunately the output in the Central and Eastern Provinces was more than maintained, with the result that the total tonnage of palm-oil and kernels (including manufactured kernel oil and cattle cake) exported from Nigeria was about 4,000 tons in excess of the previous year.

The exports of cotton were the largest on record, the previous best year being 1909, when 5,000,000 lb. were shipped.

Climatic conditions, although better than during 1912, were scarcely favourable to cocoa cultivation, and the crop, whilst larger than in 1912, was not, as will be noted from the above table, equal to that of 1911, which was the best season so far experienced in this industry.

It is of interest to note that cotton piece goods to the value of £1,675,000 were imported during the year, this representing an advance of slightly over 10 per cent. on the previous year's total, which was the best then on record. A retrospective glance at the import statistics since 1900 shows that the average annual value of cotton piece goods received in Nigeria during the years 1901–1903 was £648,000 only, and for the years 1907–1909 £1,045,000. These figures indicate that the Nigerian trade in Lancashire woven goods has increased more than 150 per cent. during the last decade.

Shipping.

The following statement shows the steamers and sailing ships entered and cleared in 1913 compared with the previous year :—

Flag.	Entered.				Cleared.			
	1912.		1913.		1912.		1913.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
Steam :—								
British ..	312	470,196	310	530,876	307	455,415	300	510,911
German ..	204	352,807	191	341,516	214	363,941	187	332,709
French ..	17	6,035	60	9,477	21	7,423	62	9,513
Dutch ..	—	—	2	17	—	—	2	17
Sail :—								
British ..	—	—	*1	2,287	—	—	—	—
Norwegian ..	1	548	1	568	1	548	1	568
Total ..	534	829,586	565	884,741	543	827,327	552	853,718

The value of the trade carried by British and foreign vessels during the year compared with the preceding year was as follows :—

					Transit Trade.			
	1912.		1913.		1912.		1913.	
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Entered ...	5,588,306	842,295	6,304,520	897,299	139,361	103,029	98,044	65,959
Cleared ...	4,558,448	1,531,258	5,537,152	1,815,225	208,323	211,003	167,880	158,287
Total ...	10,146,754	2,373,553	11,841,672	2,712,524	347,687	314,032	265,924	224,246

The percentage of trade carried by foreign vessels during the four years 1910–1913 was 21·2, 21·4, 18·9 and 18·6 respectively.

* This ship was dismantled at Forcados and is now being used as a hulk.

AGRICULTURE.

The principal crops cultivated for export are cotton, cocoa and maize. As the export of this produce for both the Nigerias is included by the Customs in one return, it is not possible to state the proportion which can be credited properly to either the Northern or the Southern Protectorate, and the figures in this connexion are for the *whole* of Nigeria.

Cotton.—The export of cotton-lint and cotton-seed for the past five years has been as follows :—

	Cotton Lint.		Cotton Seed.	
		Value.		Value.
Year.	Cwt.	£	Tons.	£
1909	44,937	103,270	4,802	11,405
1910	22,128	78,478	2,177	5,472
1911	19,984	66,935	1,908	4,577
1912	39,043	102,932	4,058	10,030
1913	56,796	159,223	5,887	14,332
Total	182,888	£510,838	18,832	£45,816
Average	36,578	£102,168	3,766	£9,163

During the year under review, interesting experiments were continued by the Agricultural Department with a view of determining the variety, or varieties, of cotton most profitably to be cultivated in the Western Province of Southern Nigeria. Of the dozen or so varieties tried, "Georgia" has so far given the best results, having yielded a yearly average of 139·8 lb. of lint per acre, valued at £4 1*s.* 4*d.*

Trial was also made with seed, resulting from hybridizing experiments conducted with American and native cottons in 1912, with the main object of raising a strain resistant to the "leaf curl" disease and possessing the increased productiveness, good grade lint, and high percentage of lint to seed of the American varieties. The first-year hybrids were satisfactory in all these respects.

Cocoa.—From the figures given below it will be seen that, although the exports of cocoa were lower than those of the year 1911, they are considerably above those of any previous years.

Year.	lb.	Value. £
1909	5,019,150	71,916
1910	6,567,181	101,150
1911	9,858,774	164,664
1912	7,593,711	130,542
1913	8,111,920	157,480
Total	37,150,736	£625,752
Average	7,430,147	£125,150

The climatic conditions of the last two years have not been so favourable for the successful cultivation of cocoa as that of 1911, when the rainfall was much heavier than in 1912 and 1913.

Maize.—The export of maize since 1909 has been as follows:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. £
1909	203,260	34,335
1910	101,917	16,689
1911	17,337	3,128
1912	157,979	28,713
1913	236,822	40,349
Total	717,315	£123,214
Average	143,463	£24,643

For the past three years experimental planting has been carried out in order to decide whether it is more profitable for the native farmer to grow maize for export during the "late" or during the "early" rains, and the results so far obtained are given below:—

Year.	Season.	Yield of grain in lb. per acre.
1911	early	755·0
	late	1,029·0
1912	early	879·2
	late	84·4
1913	early	1,043·0
	late	593·0

The low yields from the late plantings in 1912 and 1913 were due to unusually dry weather.

Plant and Seed Distribution.—That a considerable amount of interest has been aroused in the cultivation of permanent crops such as cocoa, Para rubber, kola, etc., is shown by the increasing demand for plants. During the year 160,900 plants were distributed from the various Agricultural Stations. These figures show an increase of 50 per cent. on those of the previous year. The total distribution of seeds was:—

Counted.	By weight. lb.	Packets.
373,042	2,045	144

The revenue derived from sales of plants, seeds, etc., amounted to £435.

Tours of Inspection and Instruction.—Lengthy tours of inspection and instruction were undertaken in all parts of the Colony and Protectorate by the Director of Agriculture and his assistants during the year; these tours of instruction cannot but prove most beneficial to agriculture in this country, as by this means the native farmer will be gradually induced to replace his crude empirical methods by more economic systems.

Insect Pests and Diseases attacking Plant Life.—Much valuable research work was carried out during the year by the Entomologist and the Mycologist of the Agricultural Department.

Forestry.

Examination of Forests.—During the year extensive tours were carried out by Forestry Officers, with the object of generally examining forest areas and of ascertaining to what extent those tracts had been depleted, during the last few years, by the destructive "shifting" form of cultivation practised by the natives.

A number of areas were visited; the most notable being, perhaps, those of the Ekiti country, situated to the east of Ilesha, where fine blocks of forests of dense growth were met with. In one part, it is said, the floating down during the rains of large timber from the Ekiti hills to the River Niger may be possible.

The forest between the Orashi River and the Niger was examined and mahogany trees found near Ndoni, and between Idu and Ofonibanga. They are reported not to attain the girth or height development of mahogany growing in other districts, but the quality of the wood is considered equal to that of the best Benin and Lagos varieties.

The Itakum Hill Forest, lying to the south of Ogoja, was found to be much richer in camwood than was expected; and several important streams, with small waterfalls large enough to develop power, were located as having their sources in the forests of the Boji range. These streams eventually reach the Cross River, joining the Afi on the south side and the Aiya on the north.

With regard to the investigations into the damage done to forestry by the wasteful farming methods of the natives, it is unpleasant to record that large forest tracts which frequently took some days to cross have completely disappeared, being replaced by temporary farms, or have become so reduced in size as to be scarcely recognisable. The Chief Conservator takes a grave view of the situation and believes that until other steps can be taken the only effective way of staying this destruction is by forming as many forest reserves as possible.

Regeneration of Forests.—On account of the irregular rainfall, which was considerably under the average quantity, the natural regeneration in the Western Province has been poor; in the Central and Eastern Provinces, however, it was reported as being satisfactory. It is interesting to note that in the mangrove areas near Calabar natural reproduction by seed is very good, many young seedlings of all ages being found amongst the older trees.

Under the head of artificial regeneration it is reported that the planting done by the leaseholders of different timber areas in the Western Province has not been satisfactory, but good progress was made in rubber planting in the Ekiti country and 13 new plantations established in the Epe district. A very satisfactory feature is the fact that many of the villages in the Central Province have started small

mahogany plantations near their communal rubber plantations. Fuel plantations have been made in the Obudu, Afikpo Ikom, Okigwi, Itu, Oron, and Aro-Chuku districts.

Forest Exploitation.—Major produce: In the three Provinces 36 timber licences were granted during the year. There was an increase in the permits granted to fell trees for export, while for felling for local purposes there was also an increase.

With a view to testing the possibility of exploiting the Awshun Reserve by the Awshun River, nine logs were floated into that river in 1912 and 24 more in 1913. It is reported that 18 of these had reached a point below the first cataracts by the end of the year, while seven reached the clear water below all obstacles. The logs are said to be undamaged.

In the Central Province 18,214 logs, valued by the Customs at £99,596, were shipped during the year from Sapele, Warri, Koko, and Forcados, while 14,376 logs were "pass hammered" by the Forestry Department during the year. In the Eastern Province 54 mahogany logs were shipped, measuring 48,493 superficial feet, and sold at the very good price of 5·34*d.* per superficial foot.

In the various reserves sawyers were employed to cut samples of timber for test purposes and to form a collection at Oloke-Meji. Some samples were sent to the American Consul at Sierra Leone and to various persons interested in the timber trade.

Minor Produce: The export of palm-kernels and palm-oil for 1913 was 174,718 tons and 83,088 tons respectively, as compared with shipments in 1912 of 184,624 tons of the former and 76,994 tons of the latter.

There was a falling off in the exportation of rubber for the year under review owing to the very poor prices offered for the low grade of rubber shipped from this country. The following are the figures for the export of rubber during 1912 and 1913 in the three Provinces:—

	Western. lb.	Central. lb.	Eastern. lb.	Total. lb.	Value. £
1912	418,314	1,149,352	11,534	1,579,200	125,022
1913	175,454	961,314	7,248	1,144,016	89,995
Decrease	242,860	188,038	4,286	435,184	35,227

This decrease in exportation accounts for the reduction in revenue from rubber licences, which, in 1912 produced £1,701 and £1,538 in 1913.

The shipments of piassava fibre from the Colony and Protectorate was 331 tons in 1912 and 228 tons in 1913.

The export of ivory increased from 19 cwt. in 1912 to 246 cwt. in 1913. A great deal of the ivory collected by the hunters in the Western Province is sold locally for resale in the Jekri and Sobo countries and the price given in Lagos exceeds that of the home markets.

Game Laws.—There has been a decrease in licences granted to shoot elephants and only 15 have been issued, compared with 22 in 1912. Of these, only 1 was taken out in Western Province, 6 in the Central Province, and 8 in the Eastern Province.

Collection of Plants and Wild Products.—A number of herbarium and botanical specimens were sent to Kew for identification.

Products of the oil-palm (*Elaeis guineensis*) were forwarded to the Government of British Guiana; some selected thin-shelled variety were also sent to the Governments of Sierra Leone and Seychelles.

Inoi nuts were collected for planting, as also some 18,000 tombo palm-nuts for distribution in the Ikom and Obubra districts for planting. A sample of gum similar to almedina was collected from *Brachystegia spicaeformis.*

Revenue and Expenditure of the Forestry Department.—The figures in this connexion returned by the Colonial Treasury are as follows:—

Total revenue for the three Provinces, 1913 ..	£20,920
Increase on 1912	3,029
Total expenditure for the three Provinces, 1913	£20,600
Increase on 1912	2,147
Surplus revenue over expenditure	£320

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

Religion.

There has been at no time any attempt to ascertain even the approximate number of people in the Colony and Protectorate professing Christianity or Islam, but it is broadly estimated that at least three-quarters of the population of 7¾ millions are pagan.

For a young tropical dependency such as Southern Nigeria, there are a considerable number of churches and chapels established throughout the three Provinces, a very large proportion being controlled by the various European missionary societies and the remainder by independent native communities. By the latest figures available there are approximately 800 places of worship, while the average attendance is returned at, roughly, 109,000.

The Mohammedan faith has many adherents, especially in the Western Province, where they are to be found, with numerous mosques, in nearly all the large towns. In Lagos their number, according to the last census, is no less than 49 per cent. of the population.

Education.

At the close of the year under review there were 54 Government Schools, 80 Assisted Schools, and some 400 Private Schools. In the Government Schools there were 6,000 scholars on the roll with an average attendance of 4,500; in the Assisted Schools there were 16,500 on the roll with an average attendance of 12,500; and in the Private Schools there were 29,000 on the roll with an average attendance of 19,000. The figures for the Private Schools, however, should be accepted with reserve, as the returns were incomplete. In round numbers the total scholars on the roll for all classes of schools may be placed at 52,000 and the average attendance at 36,000.

The subjoined table shows the scholars on the roll and in attendance for the three Provinces, so far as the Government and Assisted Schools are concerned, for the year 1913 as compared with 1912.

Province.	Government.				Assisted.			
	Roll.		Attendance.		Roll.		Attendance.	
	1912.	1913.	1912.	1913.	1912.	1913.	1912.	1913.
Western	927	1,063	644	735	6,635	7,053	4,935	5,054
Central	2,755	2,799	1,961	2,192	4,479	5,157	3,888	4,424
Eastern	2,000	2,256	1,379	1,657	4,312	4,320	2,909	2,823
Total ..	5,682	6,118	3,984	4,584	15,426	16,530	11,732	12,301

The number of boys attending King's College, Lagos, increased during the year from 59 to 69. This included 3 scholars, 13 exhibitioners, and 2 pupils who hold exhibitions under the Hussey Charity scheme.

The examinations for teachers' certificates and of pupil teachers were held in the month of December at Lagos, Warri, Onitsha, Bonny and Calabar. There were 270 candidates (123 teachers and 147 pupil teachers), of whom 41 teachers and 67 pupil teachers were successful.

Clerical entrance examinations for third class clerkships took place in March and September. Out of 360 candidates 78 were successful, showing an increase over the number entered in 1912, which was 275, of whom 87 passed. The clerical promotion examinations for second class clerks were held in January and July. There were 134 candidates and 35 satisfied the examiners.

The Cambridge University Local Examinations took place at Lagos in December. The candidates numbered 36, of whom 20 obtained a pass, 13 for the Junior and 7 for the Preliminary Examination. The Senior Examination was not held.

Two sessions of Evening Continuation Classes were held at King's College from February to May and from September to December. The classes were open to the general public, a fee being charged. The course of instruction comprised English, history and geography, mathematics, elementary science, nature study, manual training, shorthand and book-keeping. Evening classes for apprentices in the Marine, Public Works, and Railway Departments were also held, when lessons were given in elementary mathematics, drawing, elementary building, and machine construction.

In connexion with the celebrations held on Empire Day, it is estimated that 33,000 school children throughout the Colony and Protectorate took part.

The Education Code which was introduced in 1910 has not proved to be entirely satisfactory, and the question of formulating a new code which will be more suitable to conditions obtaining in this country is under consideration.

The total expenditure under the education estimates amounted to £33,280, of which £2 376 was for the maintenance of Government Schools and £11,234 was for grants-in-aid to Private Schools.

LEGISLATION.

The principal Ordinances passed during the year are :—

" The Native Labour (Foreign Service) Ordinance, 1913," to regulate and control the recruiting of native labour for foreign service. Enacted 19th of February.

" The Unseaworthy Ships Ordinance, 1913," to prevent the sending of unseaworthy ships to sea. Enacted 15th of May.

" The Preservation of Order on Ships Ordinance, 1913," to provide for the preservation of order on ships and wharves. Enacted 15th of May.

" The Opium Ordinance, 1913," to give effect to the measures decided upon in the International Opium Convention signed at the Hague on the 23rd day of January, 1912, and to regulate the importation into, and storage and disposal of opium, morphine, cocaine and similar drugs in, the Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria, and to amend the provisions of the " Sale of Drugs and Poisons Ordinance " relating thereto. Enacted 26th of June.

" The Foreign Marriage Ordinance, 1913," to give effect in the Colony to " The Foreign Marriages Order in Council, 1913." Enacted 26th of June.

" The Highways (Motor Traffic) Ordinance, 1913," to enable the Governor in Council to prohibit or restrict the driving of motor cars on highways. Enacted 26th of June.

" The Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance, 1913," to provide for the regulation of wireless telegraphy. Enacted 7th of August.

"The Minerals Ordinance, 1913," to regulate the right to search for minerals and also to dig for, mine, and work minerals, and also for other purposes relating thereto. Enacted 9th of September.

"The Quarantine Ordinance, 1913," to provide for and regulate the imposition of quarantine. Enacted 21st of August.

"The Criminal Evidence Ordinance, 1913," to amend the law of evidence in criminal proceedings. Enacted 7th of October.

"The Widows' and Orphans' Pension Ordinance, 1913," to make provision for granting pensions to widows and children of deceased European public officers. Enacted 3rd of December.

Criminal Statistics.

The number of persons apprehended or summoned before the magisterial courts was 16,001, compared with 14,783 in 1912. They were dealt with as follows:—

	1913.	1912.
Discharged for want of prosecution	1,465	702
Discharged on merit	1,582	1,942
Summarily convicted	12,556	11,653
Committed for trial	398	486
Total	16,001	14,783

Of the number of summary convictions, 1,207 were for offences against the person, 32 for malicious injury to property, 21 for cattle stealing and arson, 2,651 for other offences against property, 4,793 for offences against revenue laws, municipal laws, etc., and 3,852 for other minor offences.

In the superior courts there were 287 convictions, and 142 acquittals, against 347 and 198 respectively in 1912. The particulars are as follows:—

Offences.	1913. Convictions.	1913. Acquittals.	1912. Convictions.	1912. Acquittals.
Murder	69	72	113	85
Manslaughter	54	9	50	10
Attempted murder ..	17	—	3	1
Rape	8	3	11	5
Unnatural crimes ..	—	1	1	—
Theft with violence ..	3	5	4	13
Other offences against the person	26	15	28	9
Other offences against property	80	19	99	36
Miscellaneous offences	27	16	38	39
Malicious injury to property	3	2	—	—
Total ..	287	142	347	198

Prisons.

During 1913 gaols to the number of 49 were maintained in the three Provinces; 29,427 persons were committed to prison during the year and 5,304 prisoners remained over from 1912.

The 29,427 committed comprised 27,561 males, 1,767 females, and 99 juveniles. Of these 161 were incarcerated for debt, 11,000 were placed in safe custody for want of security, and 18,266 were sentenced to penal imprisonment.

There were previous convictions against 2,201 of the number committed, as follows:—965 once, 802 twice, and 434 thrice or more.

Of the total number of offenders serving sentences of penal imprisonment there were 12,625 for terms of under six months, 5,168 for six months up to and including two years, and 634 for over two years.

The total earnings of the prisons amounted to £34,935, of which £737 was in cash. The number of prison days worked out to 2,041,064.

There were 452 deaths amongst the inmates of the various prisons, of which 55 were judicial executions.

Posts and Telegraphs.

The number of articles, exclusive of parcels, passing through the post was 2,860,000.

The total number of parcels dealt with was 111,231 and the total number of registered articles was 333,047.

The number of cash on delivery parcels and packets received amounted to 17,098, the value of which was £17,227. Of this number 15,830 were delivered, and £15,591 was remitted to the senders in respect of trade charges thereon. All these parcels were received from the United Kingdom.

There was an increase in money order transactions to the extent of £39,784, whilst postal order business was £23,217 in excess of the previous year's transactions.

There was an increase of 60,894 telegrams, or 10 per cent., and an increase of £1,180 in paid telegrams, or 15 per cent. There was an increase of £714, or 15 per cent., in cablegrams handed in at Southern Nigeria telegraph offices, and a decrease of £982, or 11 per cent., in cablegrams handed in at Northern Nigeria telegraph offices for transmission *via* Lagos.

The paid telephone service showed an increase in paid subscriptions of £149, or 14 per cent.

Savings Bank.

The amount deposited in the Savings Bank during the year was £32,493, against £29,858 in 1912, an increase of £3,635. The withdrawals amounted to £29,816, as against £27,483 in 1912, an increase of £2,333.

The Bank held a total of £45,167 for 5,379 depositors on 31st. December, 1913, as against £41,590 which stood to the credit of 4,729 depositors on 31st December, 1912.

The total sum invested on behalf of the Savings Bank by the Crown Agents for the Colonies in securities approved by the Secretary of State is £39,206.

Interest at 2½ per cent. per annum computed on various amounts deposited during the year aggregated £978, of which a sum of £78 was paid to depositors who closed their accounts, the difference—viz., £900—being added to capital in favour of the remaining depositors.

The amount realised by interest on invested Savings Bank Funds was £1,246.

Military Operations.

During the year there were only a few occasions on which it was found necessary to employ military in suppression of risings amongst the natives; and in the majority of the following cases the punitive measures were of so mild a nature as to barely warrant their inclusion as "military operations."

In March an escort visited the locality of Ogu, in the Okigwi District; and in April the Officer in charge of the temporary military district of Ukpo (Ogoja District) found it necessary to take action against one or two of the Munshi tribes living in the vicinity of Ukpo station. This portion of the Munshi country, entered only for the first time by troops in 1912, could scarcely be said to be under Government control.

In May an escort accompanied the District Commissioner of Obudu to Aheasa; in August measures were taken to suppress disaffection in a small group of towns in Ogoni, Opobo District; and in December the people of Ihiala and Okija, on the southern border of the Onitsha District, became somewhat out of hand.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Climate.

The mean shade temperature and the total rainfall recorded at ten important stations for the year 1913 is shown in the subjoined table.

Place.	Position.	Mean shade temperature.	Total rainfall.
Abeokuta	7°09′N.—3°21′E.	81°·4	44·49 inches.
Benin City ..	6°20′N —5°36′E.	76°·7	75·01 „
Calabar	4°58′N.—8°19′E.	82°·2	128·84 „
Ibadan	7°24′N.—3°53′E.	79°·9	49·19 „
Lagos	6°27′N.—3°24′E.	81°·0	60·65 „
Obudu	6°38′N.—9°08′E.	78°·8	66·43 „
Ondo	7°06′N.—4°50′E.	78°·5	55·14 „
Onitsha	6°10′N.—6°47′E.	81°·9	65·74 „
Owerri	5°29′N.—7°03′E.	78°·3	76·35 „
Warri	5°31′N.—5°44′E.	79°·8	112·16 „

The greatest rainfall for the year was 243·96 inches at Forcados (5°23′N.—5°26′E.); and the least 36·58 inches at Oloke-Meji (7°25′N.—3°33′E.). The greatest and the least rainfall for the preceding year were 178·41 inches at Bonny (4°27′N.—7°10′E.) and 27·86 inches at Ibadan (7°24′N.—3°53′E.).

Vital Statistics.

The coloured population of Southern Nigeria is approximately 7,891,000, with an average density of about 98 per square mile. The most thickly populated district is that around Ikot-Ekpene, in the Ibibio country, which is estimated to contain no less than 437 inhabitants to the square mile, while the most thinly peopled region is that of Oban, inhabited by the Ekoi tribe, which is estimated to have only 4 per square mile. The country to the north of Oyo and to the south-west of Shaki is practically uninhabited.

The average number of Europeans in the country may be placed at, roughly, 1,800, of whom about 40 per cent. are officials. The climatic conditions of the country make long periods of residence by Europeans impossible and the white population is therefore continually changing.

There were 36 deaths and 54 cases of invaliding among European non-officials, and 7 deaths and 52 invalidings amongst the Government officials. Compared with the figures for the year 1912, there was an increase of 10 in the deaths amongst non-officials, and an increase of 22 in invalidings amongst the same class ; while there was a decrease of 2 in the deaths of officials, and a decrease of 5 in their invalidings.

Government Institutions.

Hospitals.—The subjoined table gives the number of cases admitted into the various hospitals, both European and native, during the year, together with results :—

Hospital.	Description.	In Hospital at beginning of year.	Admitted during year.	Discharged.			Deaths.
				Cured.	Relieved.	Not Improved	
Bonny ..	Native	—	152	132	6	2	12
Calabar ..	European ..	1	94	58	30	4	3
	Native	79	1,078	1,033	37	12	75
Degema ..	Native	5	201	134	44	16	12
Forcados ..	do.	11	283	183	74	22	15
Ibadan ..	European ..	—	41	36	3	1	1
	Native	—	462	412	19	—	31
Lagos ..	European and Native	49	1,882	1,541	257	—	133
Onitsha ..	European	1	69	55	5	1	—
Opobo ..	European and Native	—	20	18	2	—	—
Sapele ..	do. ..	1	33	14	16	1	3
Warri ..	European ..	5	114	104	10	3	2
	Native	18	564	504	46	10	22
	Total	170	4,984	4,224	549	72	309

Lunatic Asylums.—The Asylum at Yaba (near Lagos) had 59 inmates during the year, of whom 4 were discharged as cured and 4 died. The Calabar Asylum had 25 inmates, of whom 1 was cured and 4 died.

Leper Asylums.—The Leper Asylum at Yaba and Leper Settlements at Ibusa and Onitsha had 17, 52, and 100 inmates respectively during the year.

Sanitation.

During 1913, which year may be regarded as a prominent one in the sanitary activity of Southern Nigeria, much advancement was made in developing on permanent lines sanitary improvements and organisation.

Laws passed.—Several Ordinances, Orders in Council, Notices, etc., having a bearing on the general health of the inhabitants of Southern Nigeria were passed during the year.

Visits of Inspection.—Owing to the necessity of one Sanitary Officer always being present at Headquarters, and the persistent appearance of yellow fever at one or other of the coast towns, with a frequently resulting quarantine, fewer places were visited in 1913 than would otherwise have been the case. Strenuous efforts were made, however, and many important centres were visited, and the most important work carried out.

Mosquito Index.—The reduction in the total mosquito index from 11·10 in 1911 to 5·06 in 1912, and to 3·77 in 1913, speaks eloquently of the work done. The latter figure, small as it is compared with previous years, is much larger than it would be if some of the large native towns, over which there is at present little sanitary control, were omitted from the list.

Anti-Plague Measures.—At various places in Southern Nigeria, especially at the ports, rat destruction was constantly carried on. In Lagos the number of rodents caught and killed was 24,767, being a slight decrease on the previous year.

Trypanosomiasis.—One case of this disease was reported in the Western Province but none was found in the Central Province. In the Eastern Province 736 cases were discovered in the Eket District and one was reported from Calabar.

Yellow Fever.—Timely warning had been taken from other ports along the coast, where epidemics have previously occurred, and when yellow fever appeared in Southern Nigeria the Government was not unprepared. Since the visit, in 1910, of the late Sir Rubert Boyce, who pronounced yellow fever to be endemic in these parts, Lagos town has been divided into sections and house and compound sanitary inspections have been strenuously carried out; these measures conduced enormously, no doubt, to the effective suppression of the disease. The occurrence in Lagos covered three distinct periods, but it is believed that they were one and the same outbreak. During the whole time there were 35 cases dealt with, 25 of which were found to have

been infected locally. Of the 35 persons attacked, 12 were Europeans, 3 were people of Asia Minor, and 20 were natives of West Africa. There were 5 deaths among the Europeans, 2 among the Asiatics, and none among the natives.

Sanitary Expenditure.—The expenditure for 1913 amounted to £10,634, as against £8,384 expended in the previous year, an increase of £2,250.

RAILWAY.

The year 1913 covers the first complete working period of the lines formerly known as the Lagos, Baro-Kano, and Bauchi (Light) Railways, subsequent to the amalgamation of the three systems under one administration, now known as the Nigerian Railway. Results are therefore of more than usual interest, illustrating as they do the somewhat remarkable progress made under the new conditions. The main results are as follows, including charges for haulage of Government material :—

	Combined Railways 1912.	Nigerian Railway 1913.
Mean mileage operated	912	924
	£	£
Gross receipts	503,202	713,628
Working expenditure	354,875	385,130
Proportion of working expenditure to gross receipts	70·52%	53·97%
	£	£
Net receipts	148,327	328,498
Total capital expenditure on mileage open for traffic	5,825,883	6,045,812
Total capital expenditure on open and unopen lines		6,094,242
Percentage of net receipts to capital expenditure :—		
(*a*) On open lines	2·54	5·43
(*b*) On open and unopen lines ..		5·39

Growth of Traffic.—The increase in business on the railway is largely due to general development of trade, and would have taken place quite apart from the amalgamation of the railways, but there is no doubt that it has been very considerably stimulated by the adoption of a uniform railway policy under one administration. Long distance traffic has been encouraged by the reduction of rates and fares, and there has been a wider distribution of trade. Traffic has also followed a more natural course by both rail and river routes. The exceptional low water on the Niger, which has hindered river traffic, has not been nearly so acutely felt as it would have been, and the rail route has been able to take cargo that would formerly have been shut out, especially in the case of hides and ground-nut traffic from the north.

Rates.—The tariff that was promulgated towards the close of the previous year on the amalgamation of the railways was necessarily somewhat experimental, and has been revised from time to time as occasion demanded. The tendency has been almost entirely in the

direction of further reduction, practically the only increase having been in ground-nuts and shea-nuts, and this did not actually come into effect during the year under review. The rate was unremunerative as the trade increased to such an extent that it entailed a very considerable haulage of empty wagons over the whole length of the line. The rate was therefore advanced 15*s*. 8*d*. per ton on the lead from Kano to the coast, and, judging by the variation of prices paid to the local growers, there appears to be no doubt that the trade can well afford the increase. The only other increase has been in the rates on trade gin and spirits north of Ibadan, which has been made purposely almost prohibitive between that station and Ikirun, which is near the boundary of Northern Nigeria, where import is prohibited. The principal reductions have been in coal and patent fuel, agricultural machinery, bags, fuel oil, petrol, coconuts, maize, and building material.

The result of the operation of the current rates has been a reduction in the average freight received per ton per mile from 3·7 pence to 2·8 pence; and as against 4·08 pence on the Lagos Railway in 1912.

The principle of equality of rates between the hinterland stations and the coast by rail and river to Burutu, or by rail to Lagos, has been maintained and has worked quite smoothly in practice.

Revenue.—The gross earnings as compared with the combined railways in 1912 were as follows:—

	1912.	1913.
	£	£
Coaching	118,910	132,567
Goods	376,895	566,995
Motor service and sundries ..	7,397	14,066
Total	503,202	713,628
Train mileage ..	1,235,345	

The number of passengers carried amounted to 1,159,710, against 977,827 in 1912, representing a steady increase of 18 per cent. In spite of the reduction of fares to one farthing per mile (except on the first 200 miles, where the fare remains at a halfpenny) the profit per mile on 3rd class vehicles amounts to 5·8 pence, as against 8·4 pence on the Lagos Railway. These figures show, however, that as low a fare as is economically possible is now given. On first-class vehicles, due to the "boat train" service, there is no loss.

On second class the loss is reduced, but is still considerable, being 1·6 pence per vehicle mile against 3·4 pence on the Lagos Railway.

The accommodation provided for passengers is excellent on the coastal section, but in the Northern Provinces large additions and replacements are required, especially in first and second class accommodation. The stock lately received will enable this to be effected to a certain extent.

Goods Traffic.—The total tonnage lifted amounted to 400,670 tons and revenue earned to £566,995, against 358,926 tons and £376,895 revenue of the combined railways in 1912. The traffic was divided as follows:—

	Tons.	£
Public traffic, including live stock..	174,957	500,288
Government traffic, including stone for the Harbour Works	225,713	66,707

Although the receipts on public traffic show a very gratifying increase to the ratio of tonnage hauled, the receipts per ton mile have fallen from 3·70 pence to 2·88 pence owing to cheap long distance traffic.

Construction.—The construction of a new line, known as the Eastern Railway, was commenced during the year, and will run from the head of the Bonny estuary northwards across the Benue River and join the main line from Lagos to Kano at a point where it crosses the Kaduna River some 50 miles south of Zaria. This important work will add, it is believed, enormously to the wealth and prosperity of Nigeria.

Motor Service.

The development and results of working of this feeder service are of great interest in view of the possibilities of extension in the future. The principal results are:—

Total number of vans in service	12	
Mileage run	102,581	
Tonnage lifted	5,271	
Average distance carried	27½	miles.
Number of passengers carried	8,657	
Receipts per van mile	20·58*d.*	
Expenditure per van mile exclusive of depreciation	15·52*d.*	
The total capital invested was:—	£	
Building, etc.	3,359	
Vans	7,932	
	11,291	
Less amount already written off for depreciation on vans to 31st December, 1912 ..	3,078	
	£8,213	

The net earnings during the year amounted to £2,157. From this figure should be deducted depreciation on vans at 20 per cent. per annum and on buildings at 10 per cent. per annum—£1,006—leaving a net credit of £1,151. The utility of the service cannot be, however, measured by this figure, as the whole of the tonnage handled is railway borne. The service not only develops the country but acts as a direct feeder to the railway.

Marine Services.

In the Western Province only one mail and transport service was maintained, the Porto-Novo run having been handed over to a French Shipping Company in the latter part of 1912 :—

Lagos–Siluko–Sapele, weekly from Lagos to Sapele calling at intermediate ports. This service was practically suspended for three months owing to an outbreak of yellow fever. More passengers were carried, however, than in 1912, and the cargo traffic, which was always small on this journey, increased from 148 to 1,380 tons. The larger and improved type of craft employed was much appreciated.

In the Central Province there were three mail and transport services :—

Forcados–Burutu–Warri, bi-weekly ; *Forcados–Koko–Sapele*, weekly ; and *Burutu–Lokoja*. The first two services suffered from periods of yellow fever quarantine at Forcados, and for two months practically nothing but mails were carried ; the passenger and freight figures, therefore, do not compare favourably with 1912.

In the Eastern Province three services were maintained :—

Bonny–Degema–Akassa, weekly ; *Bonny–Opobo*, bi-weekly ; and *Cross River*, weekly. The direct service between Bonny and Akassa was accelerated by a new non-stop run between Bonny and Degema, the launches then proceeding direct to Brass and Akassa. This arrangement was much appreciated by long distance passengers. A second and larger launch served the intermediate stations between Bonny and Degema.

The Cross River mail and transport service was run weekly by stern-wheelers between Calabar and Ikom. During the dry season months the mail service is carried on by shallow draught motor launches, the river above Itu not being navigable for any vessel drawing more than 12 to 18 inches. An additional wet season (July to November) service has been run up the Ewayong River from Obubra to Bansara by a shallow draught motor launch, and has done much to stimulate traffic up this important tributary. 19,588 passengers and 2,421 tons of cargo were carried during the year.

Public Works.

Harbour Works.—On the 31st of December, 1913, the works which have been in progress for the past few years with the object of making the Port of Lagos open to ocean-going steamships were in a most satisfactory position, and, even before the completion of the task was in sight, large vessels have been able to navigate the bar and berth inside the harbour.

The Eastern Mole, the first to be commenced, had a length of 7,315 feet, of which 809 feet were built during the year. A total of 452,180 tons of stone were utilised in its construction. The Western Mole had advanced 1,975 feet from its base on the foreshore, of which 1,039 feet were completed during the year. A total of 150,608 tons of stone were used on this mole.

Altogether 9,209 feet of wall have been constructed, and no less than 602,788 tons of material have been transported from the quarries at Abeokuta, 60 miles from Lagos, and placed in position. The total cost of the Harbour Works up to the end of 1913 was £482,748, while the erection of wharves has cost an additional £213,576.

Towards the end of the year the following large ocean-going cargo boats, among others, entered the harbour :—

S.S. " Montenegro "	2,856	Registered tonnage.	
S.S. " Ethiope "	2,475	,,	,,
S.S. " Degema "	2,245	,,	,,
S.S. " Patani "	2,178	,,	,,
S.S. " Andoni "	2,034	,,	,,

The following table shows for each year since 1907 the official bar draught for steamers navigating the entrance to the port :—

Date.	Minimum.	Maximum.
1907	9′ 0″	11′ 0″
1908	11′ 6″	13′ 0″
1909	12′ 0″	14′ 0″
1910	13′ 0″	15′ 0″
1911	11′ 6″	16′ 0″
1912	9′ 6″	16′ 6″
1913	12′ 0″	18′ 0″

Waterworks.—Work has proceeded steadily with the scheme, inaugurated in 1907, of supplying Lagos with water from the valley of the River Iju, some 17 miles distant, and by the end of the year the pipe line from that waterway to the town was practically complete. It is hoped, therefore, that water will be laid on to the houses and streets in Lagos by the end of 1914. The total expenditure up to the end of the period covered by this report was £213,576.

Buildings and Road Construction.—A considerable programme of building and road construction was carried out during the year by the Department of Public Works, and the following are the more important undertakings completed :—

At Lagos : Machinery and buildings for new Public Works Yard ; new General Post Office ; new Printing Works ; addition to Electric Power Station ; and a Training School. In the Western Province : The road between Oshogbo and Ogbomosho. In the Central Province : The roads between Agbor, Benin, and Ifon ; Awka, Udi, and Okwoga ; and Abakaliki and Obubra. In the Eastern Province : The roads between Calabar and Odukpani ; Ikot-Ubaw and Uyo ; Aba,Owerri, and Oguta ; and Afikpo and Okigwi.

Waterway Clearing.—A large amount of snag clearing and removal of other obstruction was carried out during the year in the following waterways :—Rivers Yewa, Awna, Awmi, Niger, Ota-Minni, Sombreiro, Imo, Cross, and the creek system between Lagos and Benin. There was a marked improvement for navigation after the parties had completed their work.

Telegraph and Telephone Construction.

Pole and Wire Mileage.—The telegraph mileage at the end of the year was 2,133 pole miles and 5,166 wire miles, with 57 miles of submarine telegraph cable. The telephone mileage was 155 pole miles and 746 wire miles, which gave a total telegraph and telephone mileage for Southern Nigeria of 2,345 pole and cable miles and 5,969 wire miles. There were 106 telegraph offices and 6 telephone exchanges.

New Lines.—Telegraphic communication was established between Koko, Sapele, and Kwale (60 miles); the line was extended from Owerri to Degema (66 miles) with a branch line from Elele to Ahoada (11 miles); a branch was also run from Nkarahia on the Owerri-Degema line to Port Harcourt (23 miles), the base of the new Eastern Railway construction.

Additional Wires.—A third wire on the main telegraph line was completed between Warri and Benin City (64 miles), and between Calabar and Ikot-Ekpene (77 miles). On the Nigerian Railway the section between Eruwa Road and Ogunshile (8 miles) was reconstructed, two additional wires were erected between Iddo and Ibadan (123 miles), and the erection of two additional wires between Ibadan and Oshogbo was commenced.

River Cables.—A new cable was laid across the River Niger from Asaba to Onitsha (2½ miles), and two additional cables were laid across the Sapele River at Sapele for the third wire on the Warri–Benin City and the Kwale–Sapele–Koko land line.

Wireless Station.—A wireless (Telefunken) station was opened for traffic at Lagos by the African Direct Telegraph Company at the end of the year. The station is able to work with ships in the Forcados River (150 miles), and good signals are obtained from the land stations at Accra (Marconi) on the Gold Coast, Monrovia (French system) in Liberia, and Duala (Telefunken) in the Cameroons.

SUMMARY OF THE MORE IMPORTANT OCCURRENCES DURING 1913.

Combined Departments.—As a preliminary step towards the complete unification of the Administrations of the Nigerias, the Customs, Marine, and Railway Departments of Northern Nigeria were each amalgamated with the corresponding department of Southern Nigeria; and the group thus formed was designated the Combined Departments.

Yellow Fever.—Yellow fever appeared in Lagos and other Southern Nigeria ports during the year, but was successfully combated. There were 7 deaths.

Eastern Railway.—The construction of a railway from Port Harcourt, a newly discovered and natural harbour at the head of the estuary of the Bonny River, to a point on the main line from Lagos to Kano some 50 miles south of Zaria received the sanction of the Secretary of State. Construction was commenced.

Lagos Harbour Works.—The construction of moles with the object of rendering the sand bar across the entrance to Lagos Harbour navigable fully justified expectations, as large ocean-going steamers were able to enter the port.

POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES.

Attitude of the Native.

The year under review was a peaceful one, and the only disturbances which it was found necessary to quell by armed force took place among the more remote and unsettled tribes. The most important was a raid by the Munshis on the northern frontiers of the Protectorate. They were driven out of the lands they had seized and a permanent boundary line was made. Throughout the greater part of the Protectorate the attitude of the people was satisfactory, and they willingly co-operated in the construction of improved means of communication.

Land Agitation.

In the Colony and some of the coast ports the appointment of a Committee by the Secretary of State to enquire into the tenure on which land was held gave rise to a good deal of apprehension, and reports were spread that it was the intention of Government to confiscate the land. The agitators sent emissaries into the interior and much unrest was caused. Subscriptions were raised to send a deputation to England to give evidence before the Committee, and the disposal of the funds raised for this purpose gave rise to much recrimination. The arrest of a prominent educated native and his conviction on a charge of misappropriation of trust funds led to a riot in Lagos, since the man was also a leading agitator.

Amalgamation of the Nigerias.

The main feature of the year in the sphere of administration consisted in the preliminary steps taken towards the amalgamation of the two Nigerias, which was to be consummated on January 1st, 1914. In preparation for this event the Railways, Customs, and Marine Departments, which were common to both (since the railways and waterways traverse both Protectorates and the Customs were responsible for the collection of duties on all frontiers), were amalgamated during the year, and constituted " Central " or " Combined " Departments. Careful inquiries were made by the Governor into the working of the judicial system and in particular of the Native Courts and the disposal of the large revenues which accrued from fines and fees

collected by the latter; into the system of administrative control involved by the division of the Colony and Protectorate into three "Provincial" units; into the methods under which leases of lands had been granted; and into various other spheres of administration and departmental organisation, in many of which preliminary changes were at once introduced.

Labour for Railway Construction.

The construction of the new Eastern Railway, which is to run northward from Port Harcourt at the head of the Bonny estuary, was commenced during the year, and a most striking feature in this connexion was the expeditious recruitment by officers of the political staff of the very large amount of labour required. The organisation was started on November 6, and by the 21st of that month 3,000 labourers were at Port Harcourt and machinery was in existence to enable that number to be brought up to a total of 8,000 within a fortnight of the demand for the labourers being made. The majority of the labourers come from the surrounding Ibo and Ibibio countries, places which in past years have placed many obstacles in the way of providing necessary workers for public undertakings, and the achievement of assembling so large a number of men for this purpose without coercion upon the local chiefs may be considered an administrative coup.

A. G. Boyle,

Lieut.-Governor, Southern Provinces, Nigeria

(Late Colonial Secretary, Southern Nigeria).

APPENDIX I.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE IMPORTATION OF SPIRITS INTO NIGERIA DURING THE FIVE YEARS ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1913.

Year.	Quantity in gallons.*	Declared value.	Revenue derived from duties.	Duty chargeable.	Remarks.
		£	£		
1909	2,950,111 (1,365,150)	308,770	639,503	From 22nd December, 1906, 4*s.* the imperial gallon. From 15th January, 1909, 5*s.* the imperial gallon.	Value of spirit imports amounted to 6·22 per cent. of whole inward trade, including specie.
1910	4,748,139 (1,973,910)	456,485	999,823	As above	7·79 per cent. as above.
1911	4,835,363 (1,839,960)	440,818	975,557	As above	7·76 per cent. as above.
1912	4,450,196 (1,774,856)	440,952	1,013,807	From 4th March, 1912, 5*s.* 6*d.* the imperial gallon.	6.90 per cent. as above.
1913	4,635,273 (1,853,750)	452,939	1,138,305	From 25th March, 1913, 6*s.* 3*d.* the imperial gallon.	6·28 per cent. as above.

* Imports of spirits at 100° Tralles shown in brackets.

APPENDIX II.

WORK CONDUCTED AT THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE DURING THE YEAR 1913 FOR THE COLONY AND PROTECTORATE OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

Reports on the following subjects were furnished to the Government of Southern Nigeria from the Imperial Institute during 1913 as the result of investigations conducted in the Scientific and Technical Department, supplemented when necessary by reference to commercial experts.

Maize.—Recommendations were made as to the procedure to be adopted in employing carbon disulphide for the destruction of insects in maize, with the object of killing both the mature insects and the pupæ.

Specimens of beetles infesting a sample of maize forwarded from the Colony were identified as *Calandra oryzae*, Linn., and *Tribolium confusum*, J. du V.

Teak.—An exhaustive report was furnished on the mechanical properties and working qualities of specimens of teak stated to have been cut from a tree grown at the Ebute-Metta Gardens. The wood was found to resemble East Indian teak in colour, texture and markings, and its working qualities were also similar to those of the latter variety. The Nigerian teak was inferior to Indian teak in transverse strength, but about equal to the latter wood in its resistance to compression. There seems little doubt that teak of very good quality will be available in Southern Nigeria when the plantations are sufficiently old.

Minerals.—The examination of specimens collected by the Mineral Surveyors was continued during the year, and reports on the results of the work of the Survey during 1911 and 1912 were published as Colonial Reports—Miscellaneous, Nos. 85 and 86 (Cd. 7067 and 7110).

Six samples of argentiferous lead ore from the Ogoja and Abakaliki districts were analysed at the Imperial Institute and valued as follows, c.i.f Swansea, with "soft foreign" lead at £16 10*s.* per ton and silver at 2*s.* 5*d.* per oz. :—(1) From Worakandi, £2 16*s.* per ton (£2 10*s.* for the lead and 6*s.* for the silver); (2) from Mkpume, £15 2*s.* per ton (£6 15*s.* for the lead and £8 7*s.* for the silver); (3) from Workum, £18 7*s.* per ton (£7 2*s.* for the lead and £11 5*s.* for the silver); (4) from Igwenidor, £16 15*s.* per ton (£5 19*s.* for the lead and £10 16*s.* for the silver); (5) from Igwenidor, £20 13*s.* per ton (£7 16*s.* for the lead and £12 17*s.* for the silver); (6) from Igwenidor, £15 13*s.* per ton (£7 5*s.* for the lead and £8 8*s.* for the silver). All these samples, with the exception of that from Worakandi, represented valuable silver-lead ores which would be readily saleable in the United Kingdom.

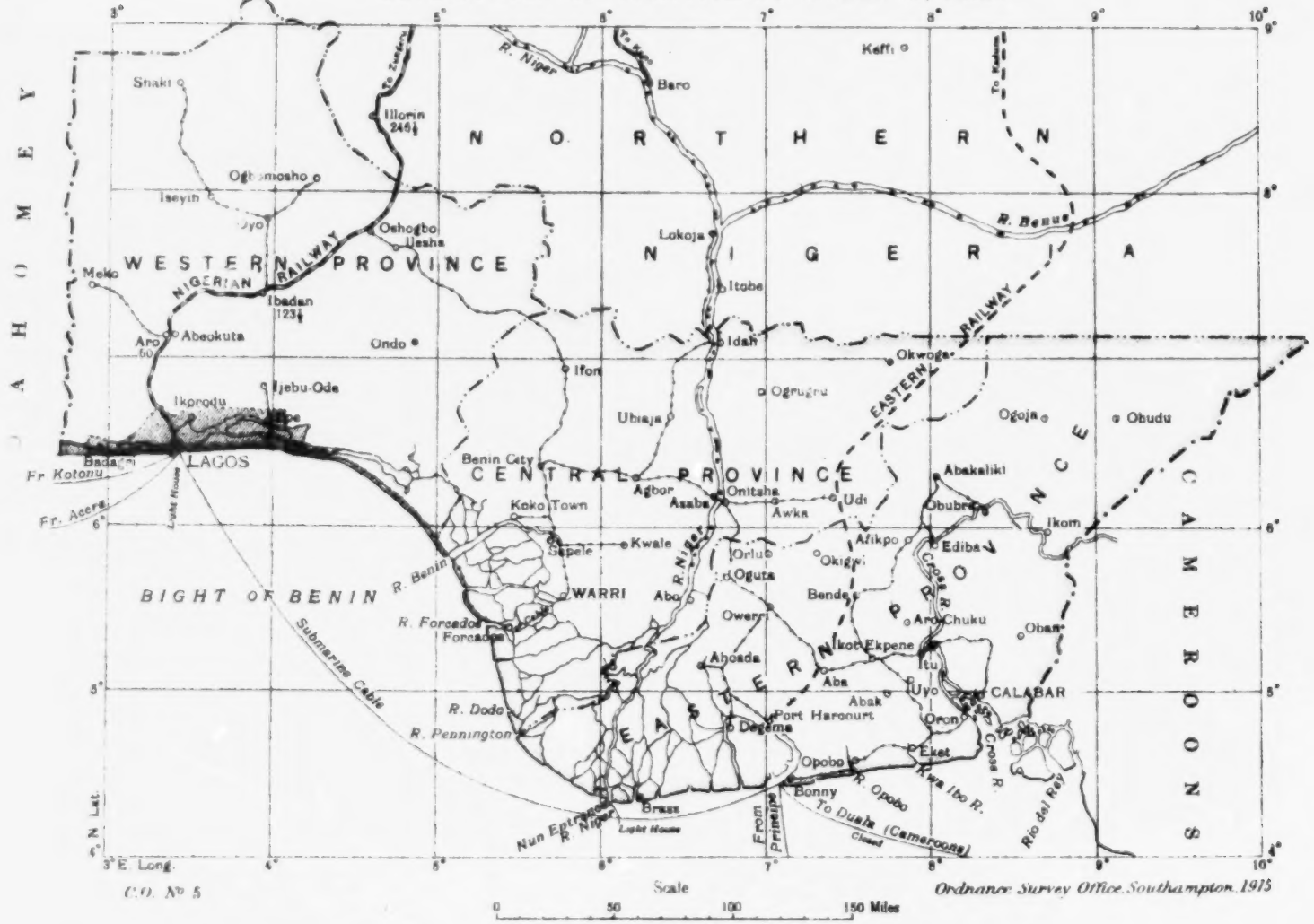
Reports were also furnished on a number of borings from wells sunk in the course of a search for petroleum in the Colony.

Other minerals examined included specimens from the Ogoja District and from Ijaga.

Miscellaneous.—Information was supplied during the year to Government officials, and to commercial firms and private enquirers in the United Kingdom, on matters relating to products of Southern Nigeria, including Para rubber, *Triplochiton Johnsonii* timber, palm-oil machinery, insect pests, zinc ores, lead ores, iron pyrites and other minerals.

Bulletin of the Imperial Institute.—Articles were published in the Bulletin of the Imperial Institute during 1913 on the following products of Southern Nigeria :—Mangrove barks, *Anogeissus leiocarpa* bark, argentiferous lead ores, coal, cocoa, cotton, oil-palm products, *Pentadesma butyracea* kernels, rubber, and the timber of *Triplochiton Johnsonii*.

OUTLINE MAP OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA, 1913.



REFERENCE

Railway constructed
under construction
Telegraph constructed
Headquarters of Administrative Districts
Portion of Southern Nigeria known as the Colony

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
797	Ceylon	1912
798	Gibraltar	1913
799	St. Helena	1913
800	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
801	Seychelles	,,
802	Ceylon	,,
803	Bermuda	,,
804	Weihaiwei	,,
805	Gambia	,,
806	Gold Coast	,,
807	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
808	Sierra Leone	,,
809	Bahamas	,,
810	Cayman Islands (Jamaica)	1913–1914
811	Fiji	1912–1913
812	Ashanti	1913
813	Basutoland	,,
814	Hong Kong	1913–1914
815	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1913
816	Imperial Institute	1913–1914
817	Falkland Islands	1913
818	Malta	1913
819	Trinidad and Tobago	1913–1914
820	Jamaica	,,
821	Northern Nigeria	,,
822	Grenada	1913
823	Zanzibar	1913
824	Barbados	,,
		1913–1914

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-Percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.

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